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VOLUME II

ALASKA MIGRATORY BIRD CO-MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

SPRING MEETING

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

APRIL 7, 2016

Members Present:

- Dan Rosenberg, Alaska Department of Fish and Game
- Pete Probasco, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- George Squartsoff, Kodiak/Aleutian/Pribilof Islands Association
- Jack Fagerstrom, Kawerak
- Cyrus Harris, Maniilaq Association, Kotzebue
- Taqulik Hepa, North Slope Region, Barrow
- Joeneal Hicks, Copper River Native Association
- Gayla Hoseth, Bristol Bay Native Association
- Randy Mayo, Tanana Chiefs representative, Interior

Executive Director, Patty Brown-Schwalenberg

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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2
3 (Anchorage, Alaska - 4/7/2016)

4
5 (On record)

6
7 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Good morning,
8 everybody. This is day two of our spring Alaska
9 Migratory Bird Co-Management Council meeting.
10 Yesterday we were still on Eric Taylor's presentation
11 and I think he has three more slides to present to us
12 today. So, Eric, if you want to come and join and
13 we'll finish your presentation.

14
15 DR. TAYLOR: Good morning. Again, I'm
16 Eric Taylor with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
17 Thank you, Madame Chair. Didn't quite finish up on the
18 presentation. This slide illustrates the Avian
19 Mortality Event Response Plan, which was distributed to
20 the Council last fall. It was published September
21 2015. The reason this document is appropriate is
22 relative to the seabird mortality event that I quickly
23 described and Rob Kaler provided additional
24 information.

25
26 The important point here is that it's
27 designed as a regional resource for agencies as well as
28 rural residents and boroughs and other councils to
29 provide information in the event of a large avian
30 mortality event, which clearly the seabird mortality
31 associated with murre is. The document describes
32 first responder training requirements when an event
33 happens, what the first responder is supposed to do in
34 terms of collecting information and collecting
35 carcasses, packing and shipping, communications. First
36 responders are first trained in safety for themselves
37 and then in terms of data collection, carcass
38 collection, et cetera.

39
40 We are having a first responder
41 training event in August of 2016. What I would request
42 for all the Council representatives here today is to
43 think about whether you would like to send an
44 individual to this training event. It's about a week
45 long and will be held in Anchorage. The training
46 itself is free. There's no tuition or associated cost
47 with it. Responders are provided a response kit and a
48 pretty large cooler or action-packer that provides all
49 the safety equipment, collection and labeling equipment
50 as well as protocols. That's provided also free of

03

1 charge. You would be responsible for your
2 transportation to Anchorage as well as lodging and
3 logistics.

4

5 I would encourage all of you to
6 consider this. I think clearly you are the eyes and
7 ears in the field. I'm sitting in Anchorage and I do
8 not know what's going on in Sand Point or Point Lions
9 or Dillingham or Kotzebue. The ideal situation is to
10 have someone trained and be able to go into action as
11 opposed to someone from our team catching a flight and
12 going up.

13

14 Yep.

15

16 MS. HEPA: Is there a limit to how many
17 people?

18

19 DR. TAYLOR: Good question, Taqulik.
20 At this point we're trying to limit it to about 20 to
21 25 individuals because it's a pretty intensive
22 training. There's a one or two-day field exercise
23 where we actually go out and plant carcasses in a marsh
24 or wetland area. We ask people to don complete safety
25 equipment, including the complete Tyvek suit, so it's
26 pretty intensive event. We're still pulling together
27 our instructors. They're wildlife veterinarians. The
28 State veterinarian, Bob Gerlach, will attend and then
29 we have personnel from various State and Federal
30 agencies. So it's a great training event.

31

32 As mentioned, 2016 is the centennial
33 for the Migratory Bird Treaty. The Migratory Bird
34 Treaty with the United States and Great Britain as well
35 as the others that followed, formed the cornerstones of
36 migratory bird conservation across international
37 borders.

38

39 I know as Alaskans we sometimes sit
40 here and say, you know, this doesn't pertain to me. In
41 fact, it took a while for the Federal government to
42 recognize subsistence spring and summer hunting by
43 Alaska Natives. It took until 1997. But it's easy to
44 forget as we sit up here in the far north what goes on
45 in the Lower 48 and what did go on and the importance
46 of treaties. We also forget that the birds that we
47 hunt during the spring and summer do not stay here with
48 the exception of Emperors and a few duck species. The
49 other 99-plus percent all migrate to wintering areas in
50 the Lower 48.

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1 One thing that followed that clearly
2 pertains to us here in Alaska is that the Migratory
3 Bird Treaty Act ended the commercialization of
4 waterfowl market hunting. Pictures like this and this
5 and this. This sort of activity was a concern to the
6 Federal government and in 1918 that market hunting
7 ended. As a result, we are blessed with the resources
8 that Alaska has here in the Pacific Flyway and also in
9 other flyways.

10

11 So I'd encourage you to engage. We
12 have a great website set up on the celebration of the
13 Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Tamara Zeller is our focal
14 point and leader on this celebration. There will be
15 various activities that will occur throughout the year.

16

17 Just a few reminders of why we are
18 blessed with migratory birds. Not only the eider
19 migration by Barrow, but for example shorebirds use
20 five flyways. Shorebirds from Alaska go in the East
21 Asian-Australasian Flyway down to Australia and Japan.
22 The Central Pacific Flyway, the Pacific Flyway, Central
23 Flyway and Atlantic Flyway birds. All from Alaska use
24 all five of those flyways. These are species that we
25 may not hunt, but nonetheless they're pretty
26 impressive.

27

28 The other thing we forget about is kind
29 of the amazing migration and biology that birds go
30 through. Here's the Bar-tailed Godwit that nest on the
31 Arctic Coastal Plain on large rivers. They then go to
32 the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta to visit the refuge there and
33 wetlands where they store up fat reserves. They then
34 do a nonstop migration, nonstop, 7,200 miles down to
35 New Zealand. They then go over toward their migration
36 back during the spring to the Yellow Sea, 6,500 miles,
37 then from the Yellow Sea to Alaska, 5,200 miles. If
38 you add all those up, that's 20,000 miles in one
39 migration every year.

40

41 The other kind of neat fact is we
42 actually recovered an individual that was banded for 30
43 years. So if you take 30 years times 20,000 miles, if
44 you assume this bird migrated this distance every year,
45 that's 600,000 miles that bird that you're looking at
46 on the left-hand side completed this migration. So,
47 indeed, we have lots to celebrate about the centennial
48 and the amazing thing of migratory birds.

49

50 In summary -- this is the last slide.

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1 Pete's wondering. We've got some birds that are doing
2 great. White-fronted Geese, over population objective.
3 Brandt are right there. Emperor Geese, as we all know,
4 have been increasing and are going to allow a harvest.
5 Tundra Swans are doing well, much to Jack's dismay.
6 King and Common Eiders are doing very well along the
7 Beaufort Sea.

8

9 We've got a bird that's increasing and
10 of concern. On the Arctic Coastal Plain, Snow Geese
11 are increasing and doubling every three to four years.
12 We are working with subsistence hunters on the North
13 Slope to keep that population in check.

14

15 We have some other birds that aren't
16 doing quite as well. Short-eared Owls, Whimbrels,
17 Semipalmated Sandpipers, Black-bellied Plovers and Red
18 Phalaropes. If Myron or Tim were here from the Y-K
19 Delta, they have repeatedly said whatever happened to
20 Phalaropes. So we've got some birds that are not doing
21 as well.

22

23 With that, I appreciate everyone's
24 time. If you do have any questions, please don't
25 hesitate to give me a holler. I think everyone has a
26 handout of the presentation. I apologize it wasn't in
27 your binders to begin with, but I distributed them
28 yesterday. I think they're supposed to go under Tab 6.
29 Thank you.

30

31 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you, Eric.
32 Does anybody have any questions for Eric.

33

34 (No comments)

35

36 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you for
37 your presentation, Eric. Looking at our agenda, we're
38 going to hop back to the Council committee reports and
39 we're going to start with the Technical Committee.
40 Eric, I guess you come back to the table. You're the
41 chair of the Technical Committee.

42

43 DR. TAYLOR: Eric Taylor with Fish and
44 Wildlife Service and, in this case, the Technical
45 Committee chair. Madame Chair, I'll turn to you and
46 ask you to provide some guidance. Would you like to go
47 through the proposals as numbered under new business
48 11(b) starting with (b)(1) egging for Cacklers and for
49 me to give the Technical Committee's finding on these
50 proposals?

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1 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Yes, that would
2 be great. Thank you.

3

4 DR. TAYLOR: All right. Thank you.
5 The Technical Committee met on the 8th of February,
6 2016. The individuals on that committee are Dan
7 Rosenberg, Jim Fall, Todd Sformo, Rory Stark, Eric
8 Taylor, Patty Schwalenburg, Donna Dewhurst.
9 Participating by teleconference was Cyrus Harris from
10 the Northwest Arctic, Alex Whiting from the Northwest
11 Arctic and Gayla Hoseth from BBNA.

12

13 The first proposal we looked at was the
14 proposal for egging for Cacklers and White-fronts by
15 the Association of Village Council Presidents. The
16 problem that the author seeks to fix is to reduce crop
17 damage caused by geese in Oregon and Washington. To
18 address the problem the author proposes to open the
19 harvest of Cackling and White-fronted Geese, the egging
20 throughout the entire subsistence season on the Y-K
21 Delta.

22

23 The first question the Technical
24 Committee had is that the proposal must identify a 30-
25 day closure rather than having the harvest open through
26 the entire subsistence season. The second point is
27 right now the harvest and egging of Pacific
28 White-fronted Geese is open, so this is already
29 established regulation. So there's no need for this
30 proposal relative to egging of White-fronted Geese.

31

32 The harvest of eggs from Cacklers is
33 also requested. The Technical Committee also proposed
34 that the Goose Management Plan would have to be amended
35 for that information to be included relative to this
36 proposal.

37

38 The effect of egging on the population
39 of Cacklers, due to the level of population, it was
40 felt that it would have a small relative impact to the
41 population and, therefore, really have no effect on the
42 farmers in terms of declining the population. The
43 Technical Committee felt that given the population
44 level of Cackling Canada Geese the species could handle
45 this level of harvest.

46

47 That concludes the comments of the
48 Technical Committee.

49

50 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. Does the

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1 Council want to go through them one by one and do we
2 want to wait for questions at the end or ask any
3 questions after each one?

4

5 MR. PROBASCO: I agree. I think maybe
6 we should take each proposal, have the technical
7 report, go through what you were discussing yesterday
8 and then take action on it and go to the next.

9

10 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. So we
11 would want to do action as he gives the report on the
12 Technical Committee or would we -- are we going to
13 bring up the proposals on this?

14

15 MR. PROBASCO: I was agreeing with
16 Taqulik that the technical report information is
17 pertinent to the proposals as we act on them and would
18 still have that information fresh.

19

20 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. I think
21 what we were wanting to do is go through the Technical
22 Committee, we could have discussion and then I'd like
23 to break out in Native Caucus before we actually vote
24 on the proposals.

25

26 MS. HEPA: Yes.

27

28 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Peter, do you
29 have something.

30

31 MR. DEVINE: Yes, Madame Chair. I just
32 want to point out that these aren't proper with what we
33 have in the book because in the book it shows for our
34 first proposal is egging for Cacklers and our first
35 proposal is not the Cackler one, it's the other one,
36 the driving of birds. So we need these two clarified.

37

38 MR. PROBASCO: With the numbers?

39

40 MR. DEVINE: Yes. In other words,
41 they're out of order from what I'm seeing.

42

43 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: I think it's the
44 same. Is this the one, Patty, where it's the same
45 proposal but we broke it out to number two for the
46 driving one, is the issue that we'll address secondly
47 with the red highlight on 2017-2? They look identical,
48 but they were broke down into two separate proposals.
49 The first one we're going to address the egging issue
50 and then the second one is the driving issue on the

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1 back in the red. Good?

2

3 MR. DEVINE: Yes. Just as long as you
4 guys know what we're doing, that's fine.

5

6 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay, great. Do
7 we have any questions for Eric with the Technical
8 Committee for 2017-1 or discussion. Pete.

9

10 MR. PROBASCO: Eric, in summary, as far
11 as egging for either one of these species, the
12 Technical Committee views that this can be done without
13 impacting other populations, other species?

14

15 DR. TAYLOR: The Technical Committee
16 did not address that. Currently there is some level of
17 egging for both Cackling Canada Geese and White-fronts
18 at the present time. That particular potential concern
19 in terms of does egging have any effect on other
20 species that may nest nearby, like Brandt or Emperor
21 Geese, was not specifically addressed.

22

23 MR. PROBASCO: But currently they can
24 egg White-fronts, correct?

25

26 DR. TAYLOR: White-fronts are open for
27 egging, correct.

28

29 MR. PROBASCO: Thank you.

30

31 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Anyone else.

32

33 (No comments)

34

35 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. Hearing
36 none. We can move to 2017-2.

37

38 DR. TAYLOR: I assume that's the
39 driving proposal by the AVCP.

40

41 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Yes.

42

43 DR. TAYLOR: Okay. If you look at the
44 proposal, there was one sentence in red that was added
45 at the end of the original proposal, a motion to amend
46 the proposal. I'll just read the language. Motion to
47 amend the proposal to restore the customary and
48 traditional practices since time immemorial in
49 harvesting migratory birds prior to 1984 to include the
50 driving of migratory birds.

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1 The Technical Committee determined this
2 should be a separate proposal. Unfortunately, at least
3 to my knowledge, one was not submitted as a separate
4 proposal. If a separate proposal was submitted, the
5 Technical Committee requested that the species need to
6 be identified, season dates identified and a more full
7 explanation of the driving process and its impact on
8 migratory bird populations.

9
10 The Technical Committee requested
11 additional information regarding the numbers of times
12 this will occur, non-target species released, when
13 drives are scheduled, will there be a registration
14 process and could there be an independent observer to
15 monitor bycatch for non-target species like Brandt and
16 Emperor Geese. Unfortunately, that information was not
17 provided in a proposal in itself.

18
19 It was noted by the Technical Committee
20 that Cackling Canada Geese and White-fronts could
21 sustain a limited drive, but not Emperor Geese or
22 Brandt, but without the information that the Technical
23 Committee requested, it was difficult to really assess
24 a proposal.

25
26 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. Do we have
27 any questions regarding this proposal. Jon. Please
28 approach the mic.

29
30 MR. DYASUK: This is Jon Dyasuk with
31 Togiak Refuge. I know that this proposal is quite
32 important to the Y-K Delta. All I know is that -- I'm
33 talking for somebody else. When I talked with Pete
34 Abraham, he said that when people do this kind of work
35 to gather migratory birds, it's not all the time.
36 Sometimes it doesn't even happen.

37
38 I know that sometimes I'm off with the
39 birds and I want to make sure our way of life that did
40 happen a long time ago when we didn't have no shotgun.
41 This was a method that we take. All I know is that
42 sometimes it's for educational purpose just so that
43 young people will not forget how hard we tried getting
44 the waterfowl a long time ago. If it's for educational
45 purpose, I would support it. Our young people forget
46 what we did, how we gathered birds.

47
48 A lot of times when I work with people
49 that are educated, supposedly educated, they use our
50 method of getting any migratory birds that are in the

00010

1 water. They use nets to catch the birds and we did
2 that. They copied us. All I know is that I talk for
3 people that don't have a vote anymore. Their numbers
4 are too low and they're not going to sit here and not
5 be exposed. They're not going to sit over here.
6 They've got no way to come here.

7

8 Sometimes I think Myron and his people
9 on Y-K Delta side they know that our way of life is
10 evaporating. Not going to be done anymore. If they're
11 not taught what we did, it's going to disappear. The
12 next generation is not going to know. As you know, our
13 world is changing. Our people are trying harder and
14 harder. Even with that climate supposedly. I don't
15 think it is, but I think a lot of our people are
16 struggling harder and harder.

17

18 Our young people lose their lives try
19 to get the food. I don't see any of you guys try any
20 other way. You guys don't lose your lives to get your
21 food. You just go to a nice, big air-conditioned
22 building and get your food. Our people don't. You
23 have to think about all these things.

24

25 And you have to remember I'm not
26 talking for myself. I'm talking for somebody else.
27 You guys know, like Chris said, people don't know you
28 guys. They don't know you guys exist because you don't
29 use RITs. The only way to disseminate the information
30 properly is to use us.

31

32 That's all I have.

33

34 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you for
35 your comments, Jon. Do we have any more questions in
36 relation to 2017-2.

37

38 DR. ROSENBERG: I just, if I may, want
39 to make it clear it is currently legal to drive birds
40 without motorized vehicles. So this is really what
41 we're trying to discern here in this proposal, is it
42 adding something to that. You know, additional methods
43 and means to what's already legal because there's no
44 prohibition currently against driving birds on foot.

45

46 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: All right.
47 Taqulik.

48

49 MS. HEPA: So, Dan, just for
50 clarification, this proposal is requesting what

00011

1 additional methods and means?

2

3 DR. ROSENBERG: I don't know. That's
4 part of the problem. We don't know that.

5

6 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Anything else.
7 You may approach the bench.

8

9 MR. BORN: Ray Born, Acting Refuge
10 Manager, Yukon Delta. I support driving flightless
11 birds, but I think we need to do it in the right way.
12 I share the concern for the Emperor Geese and for the
13 other species that are of concern. I think if we have
14 the right means and methods in place, I think that's a
15 doable option.

16

17 From the Refuge perspective, if we
18 don't have that in place, we can't ensure the future
19 generations have that ability. That's one of my
20 biggest concerns. I want to ensure that future
21 generations have the ability to experience all of that,
22 but we need to preserve or at least conserve some of
23 these species by doing it the right way.

24

25 Thank you, ma'am.

26

27 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you.

28

29 DR. ROSENBERG: Gayla, may I?

30

31 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Yes, go ahead.

32

33 DR. ROSENBERG: I just want to clarify
34 what I said earlier. I believe that any restrictions on
35 driving flightless birds are from the Yukon-Kuskokwim
36 Delta Goose Management Plan. So that, I think, is the
37 overriding document to this issue that would have to be
38 changed. I believe it's in there, but it's not in the
39 AMBCC regulations as far as driving them on foot. It's
40 motorized vehicles. I'll find my copy. I have it
41 here.

42

43 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Are those plans
44 in our black binders?

45

46 MS. SCHWALENBERG: No. Oh, the Yukon-
47 Delta one is.

48

49 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. So maybe
50 we can review that.

00012

1 MS. SCHWALENBERG: Rory has a comment.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Rory.

4

5 MR. STARK: Rory Stark with Law
6 Enforcement, Madame Chairperson. This is going to be
7 comments on the 2017-2, the driving birds. Obviously
8 there's not enough information to see exactly what the
9 proposal is, but as it currently stands the regulation
10 reads that you can't use any vehicle for driving,
11 rallying or stirring up migratory birds.

12

13 If we should try and create an
14 exception to that for one or two species, I think it
15 would be unenforceable for us to be able to enforce the
16 general regulation. Differentiating between species
17 when you're driving them, to just get the Cacklers and
18 the White-fronts would be almost impossible. From an
19 enforcement standpoint, we probably wouldn't be able to
20 enforce that regulation anymore.

21

22 From the information we have, there is
23 an issue with driving flightless birds and taking a
24 large number of birds. Currently that's illegal. So,
25 from the law enforcement perspective, we would not be
26 in support of even a limited drive just because of the
27 enforceability issues.

28

29 Thank you.

30

31 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you. Yes,
32 you may.

33

34 DR. ROSENBERG: Through the Chair. I'd
35 just like to clarify that I now have my copy of the
36 Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Goose Management Plan in front of
37 me. In addition to no taking of Emperor Geese at any
38 time, which is currently in that plan, there's no
39 taking of Cackling Geese, Pacific White-fronted Geese
40 or Brandt during the 30-day closure period. There is
41 no taking the eggs of Emperor Geese, Cackling Geese or
42 Brandt. In addition to that, there's no taking of
43 Cackling Geese or Brandt during the nesting, brood
44 rearing and flightless periods. So that would all have
45 to be addressed.

46

47 Thank you.

48

49 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you. Any
50 other questions.

00013

1 (No comments)

2

3 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. Moving on,
4 Eric, to 2017-3.

5

6 DR. TAYLOR: This is a proposal by the
7 Chugach Regional Resources Commission to include two
8 communities that are currently excluded from
9 participating in the Eyak/Cordova hunt, which was put
10 into regulation three years ago. The Technical
11 Committee's comments. The first comment was.....

12

13 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Sorry, Eric.

14

15 DR. TAYLOR: Am I on the wrong
16 proposal?

17

18 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: You are.

19

20 DR. TAYLOR: All right. Which one
21 would you like me to try?

22

23 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: This one is the
24 Copper River proposal.

25

26 DR. TAYLOR: Okay. My understanding is
27 those proposals have been withdrawn.

28

29 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: We're still
30 bringing them to the table and we'll be voting on that
31 at this Council. We're discussing 2017-3 for the
32 Copper River. We need to bring those to the table and
33 we take action once the proposal is submitted, is that
34 correct?

35

36 MR. PROBASCO: That is correct.

37

38 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. So if you
39 could proceed, Eric, and we'll go through it and when
40 it comes time to vote on the proposals we'll make the
41 decision.

42

43 DR. TAYLOR: So this is, just for my
44 clarification, the permanent residency clarification,
45 is that correct?

46

47 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: On page 4.

48

49 DR. TAYLOR: Okay. This proposal was
50 produced by the Copper River Native Association and it

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1 reads that the seven-member tribes of the Upper Copper
2 River are considered part of the excluded area, so
3 petitioned the AMBCC in 2000 to be included. Over the
4 years issues have arisen regarding people living in the
5 Upper Copper River area who do not have a physical
6 address because they live in such a remote area and
7 there are no house numbers.

8

9 The problem the author seeks to fix is
10 to exclude individuals who possess a U.S. postal office
11 box number in the included areas, Mentasta,
12 Chistochina, Gakona, Gulkana, Tazlina, Copper Center,
13 Chitina, but who have no physical residence in any of
14 these villages. The concern is that the eligibility is
15 defined too broadly based on permanent residency alone
16 resulting in hunters participating in a subsistence
17 hunt who do not have a pre-established traditional use.
18 Use of post office box numbers to determine eligibility
19 can lead to misuse as defined by participation by
20 individuals who were not intended to be included.

21

22 The Technical Committee determined that
23 it was noted over time traditional subsistence users
24 move and some move to excluded communities. The Office
25 of Subsistence Management list all of these communities
26 as subsistence areas. It was stated that it does not
27 make sense to have islands of eligible areas amongst
28 ineligible areas. It was felt that Game Management
29 Units would be much easier to enforce.

30

31 One way to address the concerns to
32 alter the wording in the regulations booklet to more
33 clearly define permanent resident. It was suggested to
34 add language defining the included area to make it
35 easier for law enforcement. Post office boxes should
36 not be used to determine residency. It was also noted
37 that the criteria listed should include if a person
38 must meet all three criteria or only one.

39

40 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Any questions,
41 comments.

42

43 (No comments)

44

45 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Hearing none, I
46 will move to 2017-4.

47

48 DR. TAYLOR: This proposal requests to
49 increase the size of the included area to include all
50 year-round residents living within Game Management

00015

1 Units 11 and 13. The proposal includes some
2 communities that are predominantly non-Native. Game
3 Management Unit 13 goes all the way to the Susitna
4 River, including more communities.

5
6 The Technical Committee felt that the
7 addition of communities would not have a significant
8 impact on migratory bird harvest. That whatever
9 boundaries are defined they must be legally defensible.
10 Game Management Units do have legally defensible
11 definitions. If you go all the way down to Chickaloon,
12 the number of hunters would more than double, but that
13 subsistence harvesting is already taking place in those
14 excluded communities according to harvest surveys.

15
16 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Any questions or
17 comments on this one.

18
19 (No comments)

20
21 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay, Eric.
22 2017-5.

23
24 DR. TAYLOR: Just for clarification,
25 that is to dissolve the Kodiak Island road system, is
26 that correct?

27
28 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: It's the Cordova
29 one. The one submitted by CRRC.

30
31 DR. TAYLOR: Okay. The work session
32 and this one doesn't line up. That's what my problem
33 is here. I apologize. So this is to add Tatitlek and
34 Chenega Bay to Eyak harvest, is that correct?

35
36 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Yes.

37
38 DR. TAYLOR: All right. Thank you.
39 The Chugach Regional Resources Commission is proposing
40 to include two communities that are currently excluded
41 from participating in the Eyak/Cordova hunt, which was
42 put into regulation three years ago.

43
44 The Technical Committee members voiced
45 the following ideas and concerns. One, in regards to
46 determining how many additional hunters would
47 participate, it was suggested that perhaps the
48 Department of Fish and Game, Subsistence Division,
49 could estimate how many of the people from these two
50 communities would be harvesting birds based on former

00016

1 harvest surveys.

2

3

4 Second, it would be helpful for the
5 proposer to describe outreach efforts that they plan on
6 conducting in relation to the restriction on the
7 harvest of Dusky Canada Geese. The outreach efforts
8 could alleviate the misidentification of the species.

8

9

10 The third concern was since the Eyak
11 hunt is conducted through a registration system, the
12 question was raised as to how this would be managed in
13 the two additional villages. It was suggested that the
14 regional management body work with all three villages
15 to develop a streamlined process that continues to
16 provide the same information as being gathered under
17 the current hunt.

17

18 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you. Any
19 questions, comments on this one.

20

21

(No comments)

22

23

24 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Hearing none.
25 We'll move to 2017-6, which is the Kodiak proposal.

25

26

27 DR. TAYLOR: This proposal is
28 requesting to remove the regulation addressing the road
29 closure in Kodiak. The author felt that Kodiak
30 residents cannot afford to harvest birds and eggs
31 because they cannot afford to travel 500 feet offshore
32 to hunt and collect eggs. The original regulation was
33 put into place by Herman Squartsoff of Ouzinkie as the
34 Kodiak representative because of concerns that Kodiak
35 residents who did not have a migratory bird subsistence
36 harvest tradition could potentially overharvest birds
37 and eggs if the roaded area was left open to hunting.

37

38

39 The proposer also stated that gull
40 populations on Kodiak Island have significantly
41 increased, resulting in negative impacts to
42 outmigrating juvenile salmon and that if passed this
43 regulation would provide an opportunity to decrease
44 depredation on salmon.

44

45

46 The Technical Committee comments
47 included the following: one is that we requested
48 documentation supporting the statement that locals have
49 noticed that non-Native people do not affect
50 subsistence activities for egg gathering and bird
51 harvesting. The Technical Committee talked about the

00017

1 possibility of a permit hunt to ensure no overharvest
2 occurs. There was concern that it would be helpful to
3 know if there would be any negative impacts on tourism
4 if this regulation were to pass.

5
6 It would be helpful to know if local
7 subsistence hunters feel whether or not there would be
8 an increase in subsistence hunters or hunters from the
9 U.S. Coast Guard if this regulation were to pass. It
10 would also be helpful to know the seasonal breakdown of
11 birds and eggs harvested currently during the spring
12 and summer hunt.

13
14 There was also concern that the
15 Technical Committee was unaware of increases in the
16 gull population and negative impacts on salmon
17 populations. The Technical Committee also was
18 concerned that if this proposal was passed, it could
19 have negative impacts on Aleutian Terns, which have
20 incurred a greater than 80 percent decline over the
21 last 10 to 20 years and that there are known Aleutian
22 Tern colonies along the road system.

23
24 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Any questions,
25 comments on this one. Go ahead, Sonny.

26
27 MR. SQUARTSOFF: I oppose this right
28 now because there wasn't information to all the
29 villages in our community down there, so I oppose it
30 for at least a year until we can get more information
31 on what's happening on this proposal. Just a lot of
32 people were surprised and didn't even know about it
33 even when Johnny put it in.

34
35 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Just to let
36 everybody know, when we bring the proposals to the
37 table people will have a chance to give public comment
38 on this and we'll have further Council discussion. Any
39 other on the Kodiak proposal.

40
41 (No comments)

42
43 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. We'll move
44 on to the next one, Eric, which is 2017-7.

45
46 DR. TAYLOR: Thank you. I think I
47 finally caught up to you here. The Technical Committee
48 combined both Proposal No. 7, the change in hunting
49 season dates and the change in waterfowl egging dates
50 and considered them together. The proposal was

00018

1 submitted by the Northwest Arctic Regional Council for
2 Migratory Birds.

3

4 The problem the author seeks to fix is
5 to better align opening days for waterfowl hunting and
6 egging, hunter access specifically for residents in
7 coastal areas, seeking to assess Brandt and other
8 waterfowl.

9

10 The proposal outlines a request to
11 change the hunting season dates from the current April
12 2nd to June 9th season to the dates of April 15th to
13 June 30th, the second period of August 15th to the 31st
14 was not proposed to be changed.

15

16 The discussion the Technical Committee
17 had is we were a bit confused over the current dates in
18 the regulation doc packet in terms of the 30-day
19 closure. We also felt that the potential impact of
20 nesting birds may be too great with the relative dates
21 that were proposed. It could allow the harvest of
22 birds throughout the nesting season for those birds
23 occurring both in inland areas and coastal areas.

24

25 One solution that the Technical
26 Committee raised was the possibility of dividing the
27 Northwest Arctic Region into inland and coastal areas,
28 a practice that is established in other regions.

29

30 It was concluded that Eric Taylor from
31 the Fish and Wildlife Service work with Mr. Harris in
32 the Northwest Arctic relative to trying to determine
33 dates that both allow increased access for waterfowl
34 hunting and egging but concurrent with providing for
35 conservation and protection of nesting birds.

36

37 I attended the Kotzebue regional
38 meeting at the invitation of Cyrus and proposed revised
39 dates for waterfowl hunting and egg gathering. I did
40 so because the idea of the Technical Committee's
41 solution to divide the Northwest Arctic into inland and
42 coastal areas or subregions was viewed as too complex
43 and too confusing. There was difficulty in actually
44 defining the lines of where an inland area would be to
45 coastal areas. So instead of dividing into subregions
46 we took on trying to find dates that both allowed
47 increased access to Northwest Arctic residents to
48 waterfowl and their eggs as well as providing
49 protection.

50

00019

1 We had then proposed the following:
2 For waterfowl hunting, including egg gathering, the
3 season would be open from April 2nd to June 14th.
4 Waterfowl hunting and egg gathering closure, so there
5 would be a specific closure period which is not
6 identified in the current regulations. The closure
7 would be from the 15th of June to the 15th of July.
8 The harvest of non-breeding, molting, flightless geese
9 would be open from the 1st of July to July 15th. The
10 reason being that driving flightless non-breeding
11 birds, flocks without broods, was practiced in early
12 July to mid July. Then waterfowl hunting would resume
13 from the 16th of July to the 31st of August.

14
15 The proposal revised dates was provided
16 to Mr. Harris, who then coordinated with his regional
17 village council representatives, which it was approved
18 by that council.

19
20 That concludes the Technical
21 Committee's comments.

22
23 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. Thank you.
24 Any questions.

25
26 (No comments)

27
28 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: That just leaves
29 one last proposal, number 8. We combined 7 and 9,
30 right?

31
32 DR. TAYLOR: Correct. The proposal
33 seeks to change harvest dates for seabird egging from
34 May 20th to July 12th to May 20th to July 31st. The
35 reason being to increase the opportunity. The proposal
36 stated the current regulation does not allow for second
37 or third clutch harvest of seabird eggs, especially
38 murre, which is a traditional subsistence activity.

39
40 The author of the proposal states that
41 the Arctic has a later harvest season than other areas
42 in Alaska and extending the seabird egging will provide
43 more subsistence harvest opportunities when conditions
44 are favorable. Seabird egg gathering only takes place
45 in a limited area in the Northwest Arctic Region and
46 that additional egg harvest would not affect seabird
47 populations to a measurable degree. The proposal is
48 addressing the area on Chamisso Island.

49
50 The Technical Committee asked for

00020

1 additional information in terms of the location and the
2 estimated number of residents who are participating in
3 seabird egg gathering. They felt that removal of the
4 first, second and third clutches would essentially
5 eliminate reproductive effort for those specific pairs.
6 There was also some concern relative to whether
7 Aleutian Terns nested in that area, which we later
8 conducted some communications with the Alaska Maritime
9 Refuge and determined that Aleutian Terns do not occur
10 in these colonies.

11

12 The second concern that was raised by
13 the Technical Committee is the recent and unprecedented
14 large numbers of murrets that have died as a result of
15 starvation during winter in 2015 and '16. There was
16 concern expressed that adding additional stress with
17 the removal of second and third clutches of birds in
18 this area would essentially remove all reproductive
19 recruitment off that island.

20

21 That concludes the comments.

22

23 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you. Any
24 questions, comments. Cyrus.

25

26 MR. HARRIS: I just had a comment on
27 that. Coincidentally, after this proposal got out, we
28 all heard about that big murre die-off, so our village
29 representatives decided perhaps we could leave it the
30 same as how it is on this, which is May 20 to July 12.

31

32 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. Thank you.
33 Anything else. Pete.

34

35 MR. PROBASCO: Thank you, Cyrus, for
36 those comments. Because of the die-off, what your
37 communities are recommending to remain status quo until
38 we see a change or remain status quo for the next year?

39

40 MR. HARRIS: I believe until we find
41 out more about the big die-off. I mean is it a natural
42 occurrence or are they overpopulated to where it's a
43 natural trend. We don't know.

44

45 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you.
46 Anything else.

47

48 (No comments)

49

50 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you, Eric.

00021

1 Is that all of the proposals, Patty?

2

3 MS. SCHWALENBERG: Uh-huh

4 (affirmative).

5

6 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Does that
7 conclude your technical report?

8

9 DR. TAYLOR: Yes, it does. Thank you.

10

11 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: All right. Thank
12 you very much. So what we're going to do is take a
13 break and we're going to call a Native Caucus and have
14 discussions regarding these proposals and we'll let you
15 know when we're done.

16

17 MR. PROBASCO: Do you want to see if
18 there's any stuff from the State or Feds, if there's
19 any additional information.

20

21 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Why don't we take
22 a five-minute break and then we'll discuss what we're
23 doing here. Thank you.

24

25 (Off record)

26

27 (On record)

28

29 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: We're going to
30 call the meeting back to order and thank you for your
31 patience. We're going to try to get through these
32 proposals. We're going to start with 2017-1. Just to
33 give people an overview of the process that we'll be
34 following is we'll bring up the proposal, Alaska
35 Department of Fish and Game will have a chance to give
36 their staff analysis, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
37 with their staff analysis if they have any for both
38 departments.

39

40 We don't need to go through the
41 Technical Committee since we already had that report
42 presented to us. After those analyses we'll have a
43 chance for public comment. Please raise your hand and
44 I'll call upon you for public comment. Once we get to
45 Council discussion, I will no longer be looking into
46 the audience for people to comment. We will be taking
47 action here in the Council.

48

49 So, with that, we will start with
50 Proposal 2017-1, the egging for Cacklers and White-

00022

1 fronts. I'd like to call on Alaska Department of Fish
2 and Game.

3

4 MR. PROBASCO: Am I the only one here.
5 You can say I don't have anything to say.

6

7 DR. ROSENBERG: Oh, that would not be
8 appropriate.

9

10 (Laughter)

11

12 DR. ROSENBERG: The Alaska Department
13 of Fish and Game's analysis of the egging will be
14 brief, but we feel that under the current population
15 estimate for Cackling Canada Geese, which is well above
16 the Flyway Management Plan objective and well above the
17 objective in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Goose Management
18 Plan and given what we believe is the very limited
19 effect of egging on that population, that we have no
20 concerns about allowing for the egging of Cackling
21 Canada Geese. The Plan also addresses Pacific White-
22 fronted Geese, but that is allowed under current
23 regulations.

24

25 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: I'm sorry. This
26 is the first time that I'm doing this, so I guess I
27 have a point of order. We need a motion to bring this
28 proposal to the table first.

29

30 MR. PROBASCO: Move to adopt.

31

32 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you. Do I
33 have a second.

34

35 DR. ROSENBERG: I'll second.

36

37 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you. Then
38 you can continue.

39

40 DR. ROSENBERG: Now I can officially
41 say it. That was just practice.

42

43 (Laughter)

44

45 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Yes. Thank you.

46

47 DR. ROSENBERG: Now that it's official
48 I'm going to change it all. The Alaska Department of
49 Fish and Game has no concerns about opening up Cackling
50 Canada Geese to egging on the Yukon Delta.

00023

1 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you. U.S.
2 Fish and Wildlife Service. Eric.

3
4 DR. TAYLOR: Eric Taylor, U.S. Fish and
5 Wildlife Service. The proposed regulation will likely
6 increase the harvest of both species of which Greater
7 White-fronted Geese is currently open. There could be
8 a decrease in the population as a result of eggging;
9 however, the extent is not known. One important
10 clarification is any reduction in White-fronts is not
11 going to address the crop depredation problem in Oregon
12 and Washington as these birds winter in California.

13
14 Also the reduction in the population
15 size of Cackling Canada Geese as a result of eggging is
16 not also likely to result in a reduction of crop
17 damage. In fact, at our recent meeting in Vancouver
18 with the Oregon Farm Bureau, Department of Fish and
19 Game from Alaska, Oregon Seed Council, there was
20 general agreement that even a reduction of 50-100,000
21 geese might not result in any significant reduction of
22 crop damage. So, in essence, this proposal will not
23 alleviate the depredation issues.

24
25 One clarification is that the proposal
26 seems to imply that hunting would be allowed the entire
27 time span of April 2nd to August 31st without a 30-day
28 closure. The Service is not for sure if that was just
29 simply an oversight or not, but there needs to be
30 clarification that the 30-day closure is still required
31 with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

32
33 As mentioned by the Department of Fish
34 and Game, the Service is in agreement that even without
35 the impacts to depredation in Oregon and Washington,
36 there is still solid rationale for this proposal. The
37 Service does not have concerns about resumption of
38 eggging Cackling Canada Geese. However, one important
39 point was that the prohibition of eggging of Cackling
40 Canada Geese was put in originally back in the 1980s by
41 the Association of Village Council Presidents in
42 association with the Department of Fish and Game and
43 Fish and Wildlife Service as a conservation measure.

44
45 So indeed it's good news that we have
46 attained a population that's above objective to allow
47 this activity. The author states the new regulation
48 would provide subsistence hunting and egg gathering
49 opportunities for the people of the Y-K Delta. The
50 Fish and Wildlife Service agrees. It also meets the

00024

1 guidelines in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Goose
2 Management Plan stating that further management
3 strategies to include appropriate harvest opportunities
4 and restrictions. Indeed, this tradition can be now
5 expanded to the two species.

6

7 Local Yukon-Kuskokwim communities
8 embrace the Y-K Delta Goose Management Plan because of
9 the prospect that its success would allow them to
10 resume traditional harvest patterns. To that extend,
11 the Service is pleased to accommodate that, so we
12 agree.

13

14 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you, Eric.
15 We're skipping Technical Committee and going on to
16 public comment. Is there any public comment on this
17 proposal.

18

19 (No comments)

20

21 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. Moving
22 down to Council discussion.

23

24 DR. ROSENBERG: Madame Chair. I would
25 like to just reiterate that because this is in the
26 Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Goose Management Plan we have to
27 address that prior to changing the regulation. So we
28 have to address this in both regulatory change through
29 the AMBCC and through amendments to the Goose
30 Management Plan.

31

32 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. Thank you.
33 Taqulik.

34

35 MS. HEPA: Thank you, Madame Chair.
36 I'd like to make an amendment to the proposal. It
37 would read to allow the subsistence harvest and egg
38 gathering of Cackling Canada Goose only with a 30-day
39 closure would be our amendment to the proposal. So
40 it's only addressing Cackling Canada Goose and to
41 address Fish and Wildlife Service clarification
42 question that we would include a 30-day closure that
43 would be at the discretion of AVCP.

44

45 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: All right. Do we
46 have a second.

47

48 MR. HICKS: Second.

49

50 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Seconded.

00025

1 Discussion. Pete.

2

3 MR. PROBASCO: I would support that
4 amendment with the understanding that everybody
5 realizes that it's already open for White-fronts for
6 gathering eggs.

7

8 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Yes.

9

10 MS. HEPA: Question.

11

12 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: The question has
13 been called. I'm sorry, once we get to Council
14 discussion I cannot take comment from the audience.

15

16 MS. STELLRECHT: I have a question
17 about what your motion is.

18

19 MS. SCHWALENBERG: She wants the motion
20 repeated.

21

22 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Oh, the
23 amendment? To allow the subsistence harvest and egg
24 gathering of Cackling Canada Goose only with a 30-day
25 closure.

26

27 MS. STELLRECHT: Is that just for AVCP,
28 the Y-K Delta or is that statewide?

29

30 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: It's just to this
31 proposal and it's the geographical area Y-K Delta. The
32 question has been called. Patty.

33

34 MS. SCHWALENBERG: State of Alaska.

35

36 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: And we're voting
37 on the amendment.

38

39 MS. SCHWALENBERG: Yes.

40

41 DR. ROSENBERG: Yes, the State of
42 Alaska supports the amendment, but I just would like to
43 add with the caveat to be clear that there already is
44 egg gathering for other species allowed. This says
45 only Cackling Canada Geese.

46

47 MS. SCHWALENBERG: She said Cacklers
48 only.

49

50 DR. ROSENBERG: But it's not. We

00026

1 already allow White-fronts. I just want to be clear
2 that this doesn't exclude what's already allowed by
3 only Cacklers. That's not the intent, correct?

4

5 MS. SCHWALENBERG: No. We're amending
6 this proposal to be strictly for Cacklers.

7

8 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Still allowing
9 for what's already open. We're just.....

10

11 DR. ROSENBERG: Yes, I know, but the
12 way it reads it sounds like it's not doing that. But,
13 okay, as long as it's -- you know, I think maybe it
14 could be reworded so there's no confusion.

15

16 MS. HEPA: You could make a
17 recommendation or.....

18

19 MR. PROBASCO: The question has been
20 called.

21

22 DR. ROSENBERG: Yes, that's the thing.

23

24 MR. PROBASCO: And the Service will
25 support the amendment and Dan clarified with Taqulik
26 that this would open Cacklers and the other species
27 that are currently open for eggging would not be
28 affected.

29

30 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Correct.

31

32 MS. SCHWALENBERG: U.S. Fish and
33 Wildlife Service.

34

35 MR. PROBASCO: Yes.

36

37 MS. SCHWALENBERG: And the Native
38 Caucus.

39

40 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Yes.

41

42 MS. SCHWALENBERG: The motion passes.

43

44 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Now we need to
45 vote on the proposal.

46

47 MS. SCHWALENBERG: On the proposal,
48 Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

49

50 DR. ROSENBERG: Now, to be clear, we're

00027

1 voting on the proposal as amended.

2

3 MS. SCHWALENBERG: Right.

4

5 DR. ROSENBERG: The Alaska Department
6 of Fish and Game supports it, yes.

7

8 MS. SCHWALENBERG: U.S. Fish and
9 Wildlife Service.

10

11 MR. PROBASCO: Yes.

12

13 MS. SCHWALENBERG: Native Caucus.

14

15 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Yes.

16

17 MS. SCHWALENBERG: The proposal passes
18 as amended.

19

20 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you.

21 Moving on, we're going to 2017-2. We're just
22 addressing the red area. Can I have a motion to bring
23 it onto the floor.

24

25 MS. HEPA: So moved, Madame Chair.

26

27 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you.

28

29 MR. HICKS: Second.

30

31 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you. It's
32 been moved and seconded. We'll go through our protocol
33 here. Alaska Department of Fish and Game staff
34 analysis.

35

36 DR. ROSENBERG: Thank you, Madame
37 Chair. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game feels
38 that currently we do not have enough information to
39 fully evaluate this proposal. We don't have
40 information on species, methods and means, various
41 opportunities for restrictions. At this time that's
42 our analysis for now.

43

44 Thank you.

45

46 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: U.S. Fish and
47 Wildlife Service.

48

49 DR. TAYLOR: Eric Taylor with U.S. Fish
50 and Wildlife Service. The motion reads to amend the

00028

1 proposal to restore customary and traditional practices
2 since time immemorial in harvesting migratory birds
3 prior to 1984 to include the driving of migratory
4 birds. As worded, the restore and customary and
5 traditional practices is vague. It does identify
6 driving of migratory birds as one practice; however, it
7 is not limited to that. So the proposal should be very
8 clear that if any additional traditional practices
9 could or would be restored in addition to driving.

10

11 The proposal is not limited to geese.
12 Instead it mentions all migratory birds. While some
13 species could withstand driving to a limited degree,
14 such as Cacklers or Pacific White-fronts, there is no
15 specificity that restricts it to those species.

16

17 Further, the Service is concerned about
18 the potential take of non-target species, particularly
19 Brandt and Emperor Geese. Several Brandt colonies,
20 Tatokok or Kokechik are incurring substandard declines
21 at the present time. Drives occurring near those areas
22 could include Brandt and it would be biologically
23 risky.

24

25 The proposal could include molting sea
26 ducks on large lakes and given the reproductive limited
27 potential of at least some species, the unrestricted
28 and focused harvest of scoters, for example, could have
29 population declines.

30

31 Again, Cacklers and White-fronts are
32 able to likely sustain some level of drive harvest;
33 however, the proposal does not limit it to those two
34 species. Further, the proposal does not provide any
35 type of guidance to provide assurance that non-
36 retainable bycatch, that is other species, can be
37 immediately released without harm.

38

39 The Service would be more comfortable
40 if drives were scheduled or registered and that they
41 would be accompanied by an independent observer to
42 monitor the bycatch and ensure release of non-target
43 species.

44

45 The recommendations I'm talking about
46 reflect our efforts to identify some ways to
47 accommodate the desires of local subsistence hunters
48 while simultaneously protecting the resource and
49 fostering Native involvement in resource management
50 issues.

00029

1 Harvest of flightless geese is
2 currently forbidden in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Goose
3 Management Plan. While driving of flightless birds is
4 not explicitly prohibited in the AMBCC public
5 regulations booklet, using any vehicle, aircraft or
6 boat to concentrate, drive, rally or stir up any
7 migratory birds is prohibited. The Yukon-Kuskokwim
8 Delta Goose Management Plan should be revised to
9 consider this practice as well as egg gathering.

10

11 That concludes our comments.

12

13 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you, Eric.
14 Any public comment on this proposal.

15

16 (No comments)

17

18 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: We'll move to
19 Council discussion. Pete.

20

21 MR. PROBASCO: Thank you, Madame Chair.
22 I struggled with this proposal, recognizing that it was
23 a customary and traditional practice to drive birds,
24 but it's very vague, it's open to all species, not just
25 limited to those species that we believe could sustain
26 a harvest of driving birds. We currently have issues
27 both within the Management Plan as well as in
28 regulations that prohibit driving of birds other than
29 by foot. I think this proposal needs a lot more
30 information as far as what the methods and means the
31 proponent would like to be addressed and specifically
32 what species.

33

34 Thank you, Madame Chair.

35

36 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. Dan.

37

38 DR. ROSENBERG: I'd just like to say
39 that the Department of Fish and Game supports the
40 concept of being able to drive certain species and
41 certainly appreciates the desire to do that and
42 certainly recognizes the customary and traditional
43 practices of doing that and would like to see it
44 implemented in some way, shape or form to allow for
45 that, at least at a community level and an educational
46 level if nothing else.

47

48 But at this point in time, due to the
49 restrictions that are in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta
50 Goose Management Plan and due to the uncertainty of the

00030

1 specifics, the lack of specifics of this proposal,
2 those are our qualms and we would like to see a new
3 proposal with better information.

4

5 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Any other
6 discussion. Taqulik.

7

8 MS. HEPA: Thank you, Madame Chair.
9 Again, in concurrence with Dan and others, I think the
10 way the proposal is written doesn't provide enough
11 information, so sending it back to AVCP for
12 clarification and more detail is most appropriate.

13

14 So can we make a recommendation to
15 table?

16

17 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Yes.

18

19 MR. PROBASCO: A motion to table is
20 appropriate or we could vote it down and then within
21 the motion to vote it down ask that the proponent bring
22 back a proposal with more information. You can do it
23 either of two ways.

24

25 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: When we were
26 talking in our Native Caucus it is important and we
27 thought that we should table this proposal and let it
28 go to the Technical Committee and send back to AVCP for
29 further clarification and possibly bring this back to
30 have the proposal have some action on it.

31

32 So I'll need a motion on the floor if
33 we are wishing to table this.

34

35 MS. HEPA: I so move with the
36 recommendation or the statement you just made.

37

38 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: To table. Do I
39 have a second.

40

41 MR. HICKS: Second.

42

43 MR. PROBASCO: Second.

44

45 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: It's been moved
46 and seconded. All in favor signify by saying aye.

47

48 IN UNISON: Aye.

49

50 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Those opposed

00031

1 same sign.

2

3 (No opposing votes)

4

5 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Motion carries.

6

7 DR. ROSENBERG: Just a point of order,
8 Madame Chair. In the future, another option is to make
9 a motion to refer it to a committee.

10

11 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: I think I stated
12 that and she said what I said. We were going to send
13 it to the Technical Committee.

14

15 DR. ROSENBERG: We are then doing that?

16

17 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Uh-huh

18 (affirmative).

19

20 DR. ROSENBERG: Okay. Good. I'm sorry
21 if I missed that.

22

23 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you. With
24 that, it's five to 12:00. Why don't we break for lunch
25 and we will come back and take up the rest of the
26 proposals. Everybody please be back here at 1:15.

27

28 (Off record)

29

30 (On record)

31

32 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: I'll call the
33 meeting back to order at 1:27 p.m. Where we left off
34 was we're down to Proposal 2017-3.

35

36 MR. HICKS: Thank you, Madame Chair. I
37 make a motion to bring to the table both 2017-3 and
38 2017-4 to combine them both because they are pretty
39 much the same thing. In that regard, for the record, I
40 would like to say that our regional management body did
41 consider these two proposals and formally requested
42 that we take no action on it and/or withdraw it. That
43 would be my motion.

44

45 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you. We
46 have a motion on the floor. Do we have a second.

47

48 MS. HEPA: Second.

49

50 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Seconded by

00032

1 Taqulik. Discussion. For the discussion, since we did
2 have a lot of the information provided to us during the
3 Technical Committee report for any staff analysis, if
4 there's any new information we could bring that. We
5 don't have to go through everything we already went
6 through that was presented to us.

7

8 At this time, Alaska Department of Fish
9 and Game.

10

11 DR. ROSENBERG: Thank you, Madame
12 Chair. No, I have no new information to present.

13

14 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you. U.S.
15 Fish and Wildlife Service.

16

17 MR. PROBASCO: Madame Chair. Based on
18 working with Joeneal and Gloria and that regional body
19 where we have committed as far as the Service to work
20 with them and hopefully down the road bring a proposal
21 for consideration that would help clarify the
22 boundaries within this region and we're committed to do
23 that work with Joeneal's council.

24

25 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. Public
26 comment. Gloria.

27

28 MS. STICKWAN: Since I wrote the
29 proposal, I thought I should come up here and say I
30 want to withdraw it. The village council was part of
31 it and they didn't want to approve it as well and so
32 did the Copper River Region Migratory Bird Co-
33 management Council voted to withdraw it.

34

35 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. Thank you.
36 Any other public comment.

37

38 (No comments)

39

40 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. Council
41 discussion.

42

43 MR. PROBASCO: Madame Chair. I think
44 this is an appropriate way to proceed with both these
45 proposals because it will give us an opportunity
46 working with the people who are most involved to
47 clearly define boundaries that can be defined in
48 regulation and to capture the intent of the original
49 regulations on who should participate, which we don't
50 have right now with these two proposals.

00033

1 Madame Chair.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Just for
4 clarification, the motion on the floor to take no
5 action or to withdraw the proposal, is that what we
6 would need to vote on?

7

8 MR. PROBASCO: Madame Chair. My
9 understanding, we have a proposal now from Mr. Hicks
10 that recommends we take no action on either proposal,
11 which does not preclude us from working with them for a
12 future proposal.

13

14 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. Do we need
15 to vote on that?

16

17 MR. PROBASCO: Yes, we do need to vote.

18

19 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: All right. Does
20 somebody need to call the question.

21

22 MS. HEPA: Question.

23

24 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: The question has
25 been called. Patty.

26

27 MS. SCHWALENBERG: State of Alaska,
28 Department of Fish and Game.

29

30 DR. ROSENBERG: Yeah, the Department of
31 Fish and Game respects the request of the proposers and
32 also is willing to work with the proposers in the
33 future and we will vote no to withdraw -- we will vote
34 yes to withdraw the proposal. Thank you.

35

36 That's a yes. I need more coffee.
37 Thank you. For the record.

38

39 MS. SCHWALENBERG: U.S. Fish and
40 Wildlife Service.

41

42 MR. PROBASCO: I echo my colleagues
43 comment and support.

44

45 MS. SCHWALENBERG: Native Caucus.

46

47 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Yes, I support
48 taking no action.

49

50 MS. SCHWALENBERG: The motion passes.

00034

1 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: That brings us
2 down to 2017-5. Add Tatitlek and Chenega Bay to the
3 Eyak harvest.

4

5 MR. PROBASCO: Move to adopt.

6

7 MS. HEPA: Second.

8

9 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: It's been moved
10 and seconded. Discussion. Any new information Alaska
11 Department of Fish and Game.

12

13 DR. ROSENBERG: No, the Department has
14 no new information that hasn't been presented through
15 the Technical Committee.

16

17 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: U.S. Fish and
18 Wildlife Service for any new information.

19

20 MR. PROBASCO: Anything new, Eric?

21

22 DR. TAYLOR: Thank you, Madame Chair.
23 The regulation will likely increase the number of
24 eligible hunters; however, the additional information
25 that was provided by Ms. Schwalenburg provides the
26 Service an indication that that impact to harvest in
27 the Cordova area is negligible.

28

29 Again, our primary concern is
30 disturbance and take of Dusky Canada Geese. We would
31 like assurance that there would be outreach efforts to
32 ensure that hunters from Tatitlek and Chenega Bay are
33 aware of the limitations of harvest in that subregion
34 and have provided identification materials.

35

36 Thank you.

37

38 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you, Eric.
39 Public comment in regards to that proposal.

40

41 (No comments)

42

43 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Council
44 discussion. Pete.

45

46 MR. PROBASCO: Madame Chair. Listening
47 both to the Technical Committee as well as comments on
48 the proposal. The Service is in support of adding
49 these two communities even though there will probably
50 be an increase of participants. I think it was noted

00035

1 in the committee at the work session that the possible
2 increase is somewhere in the neighborhood of 10 people.
3 Outreach is something we've done very successfully in
4 the Cordova area, so I think that's obtainable. The
5 Service would support this proposal.

6

7 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. In Native
8 Caucus, we had a chance to discuss this as well and I
9 think that the 10 people that it will impact will be
10 really happy and be able to harvest.

11

12 Any other questions, comments.

13

14 DR. ROSENBERG: No. I'd just like to
15 say that the Department is in support of this. The
16 concerns with opening this initially have not come to
17 fruition. The harvest is currently negligible.
18 There's very low participation overall and we don't
19 think this will add in any significant way to the
20 current harvest.

21

22 Thank you.

23

24 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Any other
25 comments.

26

27 MR. PROBASCO: Question.

28

29 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: The question has
30 been called. Patty.

31

32 MS. SCHWALENBERG: Alaska Department of
33 Fish and Game.

34

35 DR. ROSENBERG: Support this.

36

37 MS. SCHWALENBERG: U.S. Fish and
38 Wildlife Service.

39

40 MR. PROBASCO: Yes.

41

42 MS. SCHWALENBERG: Native Caucus.

43

44 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Yes.

45

46 MS. SCHWALENBERG: Motion passes.

47

48 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Gloria, you could
49 approach. I just wanted clarification on our two
50 proposals. His motion was to combine both of them and

00036

1 take no action and then I hear Fish and Game withdraw
2 the proposal. To me, those are two different things,
3 withdraw or take no action. Maybe I'm just not
4 understanding. I just wanted clarification on that.

5

6 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Patty.

7

8 MS. SCHWALENBERG: I don't know.

9

10 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Pete, did you
11 have clarification?

12

13 MR. PROBASCO: Yes. Thanks, Gloria,
14 for the question. The motion that Mr. Hicks provided
15 was to take no action on the proposals, which does not
16 prevent us from our future work, but would still
17 require us, whatever we come up with, to submit that
18 recommendation back to the Council. So it's no action
19 on either proposal.

20

21 MS. STICKWAN: Okay. That's no action
22 and withdraw, right?

23

24 MR. PROBASCO: Same thing. They're
25 gone.

26

27 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Moving along.
28 We're on 2017-6. Dissolve the Kodiak Island roaded
29 area closure regulation.

30

31 MR. PROBASCO: Move to adopt.

32

33 MR. DEVINE: Second.

34

35 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: It's moved and
36 seconded. Looking for new information, Alaska
37 Department of Fish and Game.

38

39 DR. ROSENBERG: Thank you, Madame
40 Chair. We have no new information other than I did
41 want to add that when the Kodiak Road closure went into
42 effect in 2003, there were concerns brought forth by
43 members of the community in Kodiak and there were five
44 groups that commented on this issue. All those groups
45 supported keeping the road closed. I haven't seen any
46 new information to address those concerns.

47

48 Thank you.

49

50 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you. U.S.

00037

1 Fish and Wildlife Service.

2

3 DR. TAYLOR: Eric Taylor with U.S. Fish
4 and Wildlife Service. The Service is concerned that
5 the change in regulations would facilitate increased
6 take of migratory birds by Kodiak residents who do not
7 have a subsistence tradition. In addition, given the
8 recent decline in the Aleutian Tern population in many
9 colonies in Alaska, the Service is particularly
10 concerned about four colonies that occur along the
11 shoreline at the heads of bays, particularly Middle
12 Bay, Kalsin Bay, Pasagshak River and Burton Ranch. All
13 of those colonies have Aleutian Terns. In fact,
14 they're predominantly Aleutian Tern colonies.

15

16 The Service is unaware of large gull
17 colonies that can be accessed by the road system
18 whereby an increased eggging effort by subsistence users
19 would decline a population and therefore provide relief
20 to salmon populations as is proposed by the author of
21 the proposal.

22

23 The Service is also unaware that the
24 gull population in Kodiak or along Kodiak has
25 increased, nor is the Service aware that that increase
26 has had any negative impact on salmon populations.

27

28 So while we appreciate the amended
29 proposal submitted by Mr. Reft whereby hunting and egg
30 gathering of Emperor Geese and Aleutian Terns should
31 not be permitted, we remain concerned that those
32 colonies are in remote areas. The numbers of birds are
33 predominantly Aleutian Terns and that any eggging or
34 disturbance will contribute to population declines in
35 those colonies.

36

37 Thank you.

38

39 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Public comment.

40

41 MS. KRUEGER: Kelly Krueger, Sun'aq
42 Tribe of Kodiak. I received several concerns from
43 organizations and individuals on the Kodiak road system
44 about this proposal and I'd like to read them to you if
45 I could.

46

47 This first one is from Rich MacIntosh.
48 He is part of the Kodiak Audubon. He said there's
49 almost no local public awareness of potential
50 subsistence hunting on the Kodiak road system. There

00038

1 needs further discussion at the Kodiak level. With the
2 possibility of Emperor Goose subsistence opening in
3 2017, there could be huge interest in hunting them in
4 April when they are still abundant on the Kodiak road
5 system. Please suggest a delay in the decision to open
6 the road system to subsistence. More information and
7 discussion is needed. Again, that was from Rich
8 MacIntosh from Kodiak Audubon.

9

10 Then I have one from Bruce Short. He
11 is an Anton Larsen Bay resident and that's at the
12 northern part of where the closure is. He said I am of
13 Native decent, have lived in Anton Larsen Bay for 35
14 years and do support Native subsistence uses. I feel
15 Anton Larsen Bay should not be opened up from the road
16 system for more egging. The people of Ouzinkie have
17 traditionally harvested there and it should not have
18 any additional harvesting pressure.

19

20 I also believe that more education and
21 information should be an important part of egg
22 harvesting. I have seen younger Natives harvesting
23 later than they should and not floating the eggs. The
24 terns are especially susceptible to disturbance and
25 many years they don't seem to have successful broods.
26 And that's from Bruce Short.

27

28 The last one is from Stacy Studebaker
29 and she is the chair of the Kodiak Audubon Society.
30 She said thank you for the opportunity to comment
31 today. I have been a resident of Kodiak for 36 years
32 and I'm the conservation chair of the Kodiak Audubon
33 Society.

34

35 Today I am commenting on behalf of the
36 Kodiak Audubon Society and our membership of about 120
37 members. We are one of the five state chapters of
38 Audubon Alaska. Our chapter began in 1982 and is the
39 oldest and most active conservation association on
40 Kodiak Island. Our mission is to conserve Kodiak's
41 natural ecosystems focusing on birds, other wildlife
42 and their habitats for the benefit of current and
43 future generations.

44

45 We oppose any changes to the existing
46 subsistence rules for birds or their eggs on the Kodiak
47 road system unless they are strengthened to provide any
48 further protection for birds and their nesting
49 habitats. Coastal and wetland bird species are already
50 very vulnerable to increasing human impacts and

00039

1 disturbance of their habitats on our limited road
2 system due to increased development, increasing numbers
3 of livestock, human foot traffic and dogs, oil spills,
4 vehicles and especially increasing ATV traffic on
5 beaches and immediate uplands.

6

7 We're also concerned about the impacts
8 of global climate change that affect coastal bird
9 habitat including increasing storms, flooding, beach
10 erosion and sea level rise.

11

12 In partnership with Bird Life
13 International, Audubon Alaska and the Kodiak Audubon
14 Society recognize Chiniak Bay as a global significant
15 important bird area. Important bird areas are exactly
16 what they're name implies. Places or habitats are
17 essential for bird population. The goal of the program
18 is to conserve birds by identifying monitoring and
19 protecting critical bird habitats. Because habitat
20 loss is the most serious threat facing bird species
21 across North America and around the world, Audubon's
22 IBA program is a state-based initiative to address
23 habitat loss through community-supported conservation.

24

25 She has a map attached here. It said
26 that the globally important bird areas that are
27 vulnerable to possible oil spills are within Chiniak
28 Bay. Many of these bird species within this IBA and
29 along our road system are on the Audubon Alaska Watch
30 List. The Alaska Watch List is Audubon Alaska's
31 science-based early warning system to focus attention
32 and resources on vulnerable and declining bird
33 populations across the state. The Alaska Watch List
34 identifies and rates Alaskan birds at risk. Those
35 species that have the greatest conservation needs and
36 opportunities.

37

38 Audubon Alaska compiles the Alaska
39 Watch List every few years by objectively ranking each
40 regularly occurring bird species and selects subspecies
41 in Alaska based on vulnerability. We consider factors
42 such as population size, population trend, threats and
43 percentage of the population that is dependent on
44 Alaska habitats. It is a scientific process that is
45 transparent and data-driven.

46

47 Any changes to weaken the existing
48 rules to protect habitat and species of coastal birds
49 on the Kodiak road system are not acceptable to us at
50 this time or in the future given the number of

00040

1 vulnerable bird species and range of increasing human
2 impacts they are already subjected to.

3

4 Thank you. Stacy Studebaker,
5 Conservation Chair, Kodiak Audubon Society. That's it.
6 Thank you.

7

8 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you, Kelly.
9 Any other public comment.

10

11 (No comments)

12

13 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. We move to
14 Council discussion.

15

16 DR. ROSENBERG: Madame Chair, may I?

17

18 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Yes.

19

20 DR. ROSENBERG: Well, I think that this
21 issue has a lot of -- or this topic has a lot of
22 potential to create local community strife in Kodiak
23 and I don't think it was fully vetted and the public
24 was given an opportunity in Kodiak to weigh in on this.
25 Initially when it was closed, it was closed due to
26 comments from the community. I feel like it should be
27 better addressed locally and some sort of consensus
28 arrived at before it comes to this Council.

29

30 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Pete.

31

32 MR. PROBASCO: Thank you, Madame Chair.
33 I want to speak and echo your comments, Dan. I also
34 want to speak from experience of living in that
35 community for over 20 years. I think Dan captured very
36 well those concerns. Sonny actually initiated those
37 concerns both during the workgroup meeting as well as
38 during the Technical report. I think not only the
39 concerns for the users within this area, but also the
40 conservation concerns that were addressed that are not
41 addressed in this proposal.

42

43 The other thing is that it's not only
44 dealing with potential gathering eggs, it also, we've
45 got to keep in mind, deals with opening this area for
46 hunting. The Kodiak road system is an area that within
47 those boundaries contains approximately 12,000 people
48 that currently do not participate in the spring hunt.
49 The populations of birds there during that period of
50 time would be very susceptible to increased hunting

00041

1 pressure.

2

3 I think it's important that we revisit
4 what took place in 2003 for that road system and
5 recognizing that the people at that time did provide an
6 opportunity to harvest within that area and it's only
7 500 feet offshore, which still opens up the outside
8 islands for egg gathering as well as hunting.

9

10 Madame Chair, I would be voting against
11 the proposal.

12

13 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. Any
14 further discussion.

15

16 MS. SCHWALENBERG: I have a question.

17

18 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Question. Go
19 ahead.

20

21 MS. SCHWALENBERG: During the Native
22 Caucus John Reft was on the line and provided his
23 comments because he had to leave and could not call in
24 again. I'd like some direction on how to deal with his
25 comments. Would you like me to read them into the
26 record or what?

27

28 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: I think that
29 would be good.

30

31 MS. SCHWALENBERG: I'm kind of
32 paraphrasing, but I'll try to capture everything he was
33 saying. This proposal is my opinion and the people
34 here in the Kodiak area, which is the Kodiak Sun'aq
35 Village area, that is not connected does not get
36 involved with Port Lions or Ouzinkie or any other
37 village. This is a problem that is created for us and
38 taking away our subsistence rights from here locally
39 from another village.

40

41 When I am an alternate, I represent the
42 island. I don't come in with personal issues. We have
43 a problem in Kodiak that we would like to have
44 corrected and it is uncalled for and I think created by
45 a scare of the influx of the Filipino community and the
46 Coast Guard base, but they do not utilize our spring
47 hunt. All they are interested in is the sport fish.

48

49 The influx of seagulls especially in
50 the fall are eating up the salmon at the mouth of the

00042

1 river. They're eating the eyeballs and everything.
2 There are hundreds of seagulls. This law was
3 introduced by Herman. I think it is uncalled for and
4 there's virtually no impact on our subsistence harvest
5 and the fear was there that everything was going to be
6 wiped out. We need to have our subsistence back right
7 here in our village. We are not trying to involve
8 anyone in the other villages. It affects us.

9

10 I know you people as villages you would
11 not like making a law in your village where your
12 subsistence is taken away. The regulation of 500 feet
13 offshore is detrimental to the elders and others who
14 can't afford a skiff to launch a boat or to go 500 feet
15 offshore to get eggs. It is uncalled for and we would
16 like that dissolved because it deprives us of our
17 subsistence rights that we had before.

18

19 Thank you.

20

21 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you. And
22 we discussed this in Native Caucus as well and we felt
23 that this proposal still needed to have work so that
24 people could provide public input and public comment.
25 I guess there was an amendment to the proposal, which
26 we don't have before us, but that wasn't voted on at
27 the regional council level, so we wanted them to take
28 that.

29

30 The Native Caucus was recommending that
31 we table this proposal to the Technical Committee and
32 maybe before our fall meeting the regional council
33 could get together and maybe have more input on this
34 proposal and then we could decide upon it.

35

36 Any other discussion.

37

38 MR. PROBASCO: Madame Chair. Unless
39 someone makes a motion to table, we have the proposal
40 before us to vote either up or down. Madame Chair.

41

42 MR. HICKS: Madame Chair. I move to
43 table.

44

45 MR. MAYO: Second.

46

47 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: It's been moved
48 and seconded to table the proposal. Discussion.

49

50 MR. PROBASCO: A motion to table does

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1 not allow for discussion.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Oh. So nobody
4 has to call question?

5

6 MS. HEPA: Question.

7

8 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you. The
9 question has been called. Patty.

10

11 MS. SCHWALENBERG: On the motion to
12 table the Kodiak Island proposal. Alaska Department of
13 Fish and Game.

14

15 DR. ROSENBERG: Yes, to table.

16

17 MS. SCHWALENBERG: U.S. Fish and
18 Wildlife Service.

19

20 MR. PROBASCO: Yes.

21

22 MS. SCHWALENBERG: The Native Caucus.

23

24 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Yes.

25

26 MS. SCHWALENBERG: Motion passes.

27

28 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. Now we're
29 getting down to 2017-7.

30

31 MR. HARRIS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
32 I'd like to make a motion to combine Proposals 2017-7
33 and 2017-9.

34

35 MR. PROBASCO: Second.

36

37 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: It's been moved
38 and seconded. Any new information Alaska Department of
39 Fish and Game on 2017-7 and 2017-9.

40

41 DR. ROSENBERG: No, Madame Chair, we
42 have no new information beyond what was presented from
43 the Technical Committee.

44

45 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: U.S. Fish and
46 Wildlife Service.

47

48 DR. TAYLOR: Thank you, Madame Chair.
49 Eric Taylor with Fish and Wildlife Service. Again,
50 what I wanted to do with the council is to make sure

00044

1 the council was aware of the dates that were provided
2 to the Northwest Arctic Council back on March 11th, at
3 which time Cyrus posed the proposed dates to his
4 advisory council and replied back on March 31st,
5 stating that all six of the Northwest Arctic Region
6 Migratory Bird Advisory Council agreed with the option.

7
8 So I wanted to go over those dates
9 again for this area to make sure they're on the record.
10 So for the Northwest Arctic area waterfowl hunting,
11 which includes egg gathering, would be open 2nd of
12 April to the 14th of June. Waterfowl hunting and egg
13 gathering closure would occur from the 15th of June to
14 the 15th of July. Harvest of non-breeding, molting,
15 flightless geese would be open 1st of July to the 15th
16 of July. Waterfowl hunting in general would be open
17 the 16th of July to the 31st of August.

18
19 Mr. Cyrus's comments were that his
20 council agreed with the option and providing the
21 benefit of extra five days and yet complying with a 30-
22 day closure.

23
24 My only other comment is to thank Mr.
25 Cyrus Harris in public for his great caribou soup, but
26 that I will pass on fermented bearded seal probably the
27 next time.

28
29 (Laughter)

30
31 Thank you.

32
33 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you, Eric.
34 Public comment.

35
36 (No comments)

37
38 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Council
39 discussion.

40
41 MR. PROBASCO: Madame Chair. I'd like
42 to hear from Cyrus on where he would recommend us to
43 proceed on these two proposals.

44
45 MR. HARRIS: I think that would be my
46 second motion to amend the season dates. Is that the
47 one you're looking for? Madame Chair, I'd like to also
48 make a motion to amend the proposal to change the
49 season dates for waterfowl hunting and egg gathering
50 from April 2 to June 14, closure date June 15th to July

00045

1 15th. Harvesting of non-breeding, molting, flightless
2 geese July 1 to the 15th. Waterfowl hunting would
3 continue through July 16 to August 31st.

4

5 MR. PROBASCO: Second.

6

7 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: There's been a
8 motion to amend the dates and seconded. Any discussion
9 on these dates.

10

11 (No comments)

12

13 MR. HARRIS: Question.

14

15 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: The question has
16 been called on the amendment. Patty.

17

18 MS. SCHWALENBERG: On the amendment to
19 change the dates for the combined proposals 2017-7 and
20 2017-9. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

21

22 DR. ROSENBERG: Yes, we support the
23 amendment.

24

25 MS. SCHWALENBERG: U.S. Fish and
26 Wildlife Service.

27

28 MR. PROBASCO: Yes.

29

30 MS. SCHWALENBERG: Native Caucus.

31

32 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Yes.

33

34 MS. SCHWALENBERG: The motion passes.

35

36 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Now we'll vote on
37 the proposal as amended. Go ahead, Pete.

38

39 MR. PROBASCO: Thank you, Madame Chair.
40 I think the amendment as offered by Cyrus addresses
41 both conservation concerns and still provides
42 additional opportunity for the subsistence users in
43 this area, so the Service will support this proposal as
44 amended.

45

46 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Did you have
47 something, Dan?

48

49 DR. ROSENBERG: Yes, Madame Chair. I
50 just wanted to echo the Fish and Wildlife Service's

00046

1 comments, that we also believe that.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: And we also
4 believe that as well. All right, Patty.

5

6 MS. SCHWALENBERG: On the motion to
7 adopt the amended proposal, Alaska Department of Fish
8 and Game.

9

10 DR. ROSENBERG: Yes.

11

12 MS. SCHWALENBERG: U.S. Fish and
13 Wildlife Service.

14

15 MR. PROBASCO: Yes.

16

17 MS. SCHWALENBERG: Native Caucus.

18

19 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Yes.

20

21 MS. SCHWALENBERG: And the motion
22 passes.

23

24 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Go ahead, Donna.

25

26 MS. DEWHURST: Donna Dewhurst. Just
27 looking at the existing regs and how I would have to
28 rewrite them, the existing season says hunting in
29 general. Now changing it to the waterfowl hunting and
30 egg gathering, the one gap or the one hole I see would
31 be you have -- to set up a new season for waterfowl,
32 hunting and egg gathering, but the existing season says
33 hunting in general, which would include hunting things
34 other than waterfowl. For example, shorebirds and
35 seabirds. Having to address that. So the question is
36 does the existing hunting in general season still --
37 it's confusing.

38

39 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Go ahead, Pete.

40

41 MR. PROBASCO: Thank you, Donna, for
42 seeking clarification, but we've got to look at the
43 motion. The motion is species specific, which would
44 not affect those other seasons open -- as you pointed
45 out, those other. So you would still have your general
46 hunting season for other species that still can be
47 legally taken.

48

49 MS. DEWHURST: So I probably have to
50 rewrite that then and say hunting of anything other

00047

1 than waterfowl.....

2

3 MR. PROBASCO: Correct.

4

5 MS. DEWHURST:would be those
6 seasons.

7

8 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you, Donna,
9 for getting that clarification. That brings us to our
10 last proposal, which is 2017-8.

11

12 MR. PROBASCO: Move to adopt.

13

14 DR. ROSENBERG: Second.

15

16 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: It's been moved
17 and seconded. Looking to Alaska Department of Fish and
18 Game, any new information for staff analysis.

19

20 DR. ROSENBERG: Thank you, Madame
21 Chair. No, we have no new information. Everything has
22 been presented in the technical report.

23

24 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: U.S. Fish and
25 Wildlife Service.

26

27 DR. TAYLOR: Eric Taylor with U.S. Fish
28 and Wildlife Service. Thank you, Madame Chair. The
29 Service is concerned about this proposal because of the
30 likelihood of elimination of complete reproductive
31 effort for murre in this area. Chamisso Island is
32 part of the Alaska Maritime Refuge and the refuge is
33 concerned that this is the northernmost colony for
34 murre. Given the recent unprecedented large murre
35 die-off that's occurred and is still ongoing, and this
36 proposal appears to eliminate reproductive effort for
37 murre in this area, the refuge is very concerned about
38 the proposal.

39

40 Thank you.

41

42 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you.
43 Public comment. Brandon.

44

45 MR. AHMASUK: Thank you, Madame Chair.
46 Members of the Council. Brandon Ahmasuk, Subsistence
47 Director at Kawerak in Nome. Overharvesting of any
48 species is always a concern, especially a bird that
49 only lays one egg. We're talking about murre. In
50 light of the recent murre die-off, that's also a

00048

1 concern as well. We probably won't see the effects of
2 that this year or next year. Maybe three years from
3 now. However, I believe the overharvesting of this
4 species would not take place.

5

6 Yes, some communities use climbing
7 gear, but it is in the most primitive form of climbing
8 gear -- a rope. They're not using harnesses to my
9 understanding. They're not using spikes to get them up
10 higher. So I believe it's taken out of context
11 somewhat that every single egg will be harvested.
12 Every egg within reason would be harvested. Obviously
13 there's areas that are inaccessible that you cannot get
14 to with a single rope or even trying to attempt to
15 climb to these areas. So not every single egg would be
16 harvested.

17

18 So I believe there's a very huge
19 misinterpretation that every single egg would be
20 harvested. I don't believe that's the case. If that
21 were the case, this species would have been depleted
22 long ago as they only lay one egg.

23

24 Thank you.

25

26 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you,
27 Brandon. Any other public comment. You have a
28 question?

29

30 DR. ROSENBERG: I'd like to ask Brandon
31 a question about just how much activity do you think is
32 going on out there? Are the people out there daily or
33 is it just once every many days and just one or two
34 people? Just to give me some idea. I'm curious to
35 know what goes on.

36

37 MR. AHMASUK: I don't believe I said
38 the entire village. Just like other places you have
39 harvesters that are high harvesters, you have low
40 harvesters. Obviously they cannot hit every single
41 ledge or crevice. I imagine it's the same for Cyrus's
42 area as it is for my area. We have known routes that
43 we take. We have certain hotspots that we know are
44 within reason that aren't going to put our family in
45 danger, in jeopardy.

46

47 Even myself, when I take my boys out, I
48 flat out tell them before they even start it's a long
49 boat ride back home. You break your arm, it's going to
50 be very uncomfortable. So to answer your question, no,

00049

1 I don't believe it will be overharvested. There are
2 some areas that are just completely inaccessible.

3

4 DR. ROSENBERG: Thank you.

5

6 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you,
7 Brandon. Pete.

8

9 MR. PROBASCO: Brandon, while you were
10 talking to Dan I pointed to Dan and trying to follow
11 your -- the proposal is for Northwest Arctic, correct,
12 and does that overlap with your area or does that.....

13

14 MR. AHMASUK: Madame Chair, through the
15 Service. We're neighboring regions. Given there may
16 be subtle differences in how we do things, but the
17 basic concept is the same.

18

19 MR. PROBASCO: Do I take your comments
20 that this proposal should be expanded? That's what I'm
21 trying to get at. The proposal is going for the
22 Northwest Arctic. So right now the proposal doesn't
23 include your area.

24

25 MS. SCHWALENBERG: He's only explaining
26 how it can be.....

27

28 MR. PROBASCO: Oh, you're explaining
29 how eggs -- okay. Thanks. All right. I thought you
30 were trying to talk about your area as well to be
31 included. Thanks, Brandon.

32

33 MR. AHMASUK: No, just to be clear, I
34 wanted to point out how it was done, not necessarily
35 that we want to be included. Like I pointed out, if we
36 truly were overharvesting this bird, it would have been
37 depleted long ago.

38

39 MR. PROBASCO: My mistake.

40

41 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you,
42 Brandon. Any other public comment.

43

44 MR. PROBASCO: You're not public, Eric.

45

46 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: You're not
47 public, Eric. You already spoke.

48

49 DR. TAYLOR: Just a clarification to
50 Mr. Ahmasuk's comment. Brandon, I had the same

00050

1 question that you had, that accessibility to Chamisso
2 Island would surely prevent -- and looking at the
3 cliffs and where murre occur, I had the same question
4 that what was the degree that eggging occurred.

5

6 When I went to Kotzebue, it so happened
7 that the author of the proposal was sitting next to me
8 and I asked him directly. I said, now, it's my
9 understanding that you egg just along the shorelines
10 that are accessible and he stated, no, he was able to
11 get to all murre eggs and all murre nests. In fact, he
12 took a lot of pride that he knew exactly where every
13 one was, so I was again still perplexed because there
14 are substantive numbers of murre on the colony.

15

16 Brandon is correct. If that were the
17 case, if that activity occurred for a long period of
18 time, the colony would not be sustainable. In fact,
19 there's documented evidence in Alaska where seabird
20 colonies have been wiped out. You know, the truth is
21 probably somewhere in between. The truth is probably
22 the person does get access to a lot of colonies. There
23 are spikes on top of Chamisso Island that allows
24 rappelling off, but it would be my guess that it is
25 indeed like Brandon mentioned very difficult to get
26 every nest even though the individual described it that
27 way.

28

29 Nonetheless, and I'm trying to draw on
30 what is being presented here in terms of a proposal on
31 National Wildlife Refuge lands and that we're trying to
32 come up with some sort of reasonable compromise where
33 eggging can occur but not to the extent where it would
34 have detrimental impacts on the colony.

35

36 Thank you.

37

38 DR. ROSENBERG: May I, Madame Chair.

39

40 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Yes.

41

42 DR. ROSENBERG: Thank you. Somebody
43 help me out here. Perhaps I missed this in the
44 Technical Committee meeting. We keep talking about
45 Chamisso Island. You were talking about an island that
46 people transit by. Is that the same island, Chamisso,
47 or is that a different area? I've got a whole bunch of
48 questions, but answer that one first, please.

49

50 MR. HARRIS: Thanks for that question.

00051

1 They are two different islands there and one is a
2 popular egg island. From my understanding, it only
3 has one rope that's attached to the top to where they
4 could get that area, but for the other one that's
5 questionable how they pick that one or if they even
6 pick that one at all.

7

8 DR. ROSENBERG: Thanks. So we're
9 talking about two locations. Collectively, how many
10 murre are we talking about and birds total on these
11 islands and that kind of thing. Big colony, small
12 colony, what are we talking about?

13

14 MR. HARRIS: From some of the reports
15 that I receive on egg from that area, it's a
16 moderate to a large colony around that area I'd say,
17 but these islands are not that big.

18

19 DR. ROSENBERG: That was my third
20 question, how big they are. So what's moderate?

21

22 MR. HARRIS: I don't know. I'd like to
23 -- well, I guess I'll wait for council discussion.

24

25 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Any other public
26 comment. Donna.

27

28 MS. DEWHURST: Just a slight
29 clarification. That is the two local colonies that are
30 new Kotzebue, but if we change the dates regionally, it
31 would also affect Cape Thompson, which is a very, very
32 large murre colony. It's not usually accessed by folks
33 down at Kotz. It's usually accessed by Point Hope.
34 Point Hope is allowed to access from the North Slope
35 because people can subsist anywhere in the open area.

36

37 So most of Point Thompson -- Cape
38 Thompson would be accessed from North Slope, but if you
39 change the dates and expand murre egg gathering, it
40 could potentially impact Cape Thompson from the Point
41 Hope folks. Just to mention a point of clarification.
42 It's not just the two little -- unless you specifically
43 write that in and say that the change of dates is
44 pertinent to there and not this colony.

45

46 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Any other public
47 comments.

48

49 (No comments)

50

00052

1 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Moving on to
2 Council discussion.

3
4 DR. ROSENBERG: I just had one more
5 question.

6
7 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. Go ahead,
8 Dan.

9
10 DR. ROSENBERG: This is directed at the
11 Fish and Wildlife Service. How frequent is the
12 monitoring at these colonies if at all?

13
14 DR. TAYLOR: Eric Taylor, Fish and
15 Wildlife Service. Dan, I can't provide the exact
16 dates, but I know they were counted, in my
17 understanding, in 1977 and again in 2015, but they're
18 not regularly monitored. That was a question I posed
19 to the refuge is was there a way that we could
20 potentially monitor the impacts of this activity.

21
22 DR. ROSENBERG: Thanks, Eric.

23
24 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Go ahead, Jack.

25
26 MR. FAGERSTROM: Which one is the
27 farthest north colony then?

28
29 DR. TAYLOR: I believe Chamisso is one
30 of the farthest north, but I'll let Cyrus comment.

31
32 MR. HARRIS: Donna just mentioned Cape
33 Thompson, a large colony up that way, and that's quite
34 a ways north from us, but that's not counting all the
35 other small colonies near Deering and other areas.

36
37 DR. ROSENBERG: So one more question
38 while I've got you. Are these Common Murres or are
39 they Thick-billed Murres up there?

40
41 MS. DEWHURST: Thick-billeds are mostly
42 out in the Aleutians and down on the Alaska Peninsula.
43 Most everything up north is Common. There is another
44 colony, to answer the other question furthest north
45 colony, that's closer to Point Hope. I think it's on
46 the other side of Point Hope. That, I think, is.....

47
48 MS. HEPA: Is it Cape Lisburne?

49
50 MS. DEWHURST: Yes. Cape Lisburne I

00053

1 think is the furthest north murre colony in the state
2 that I'm aware of. But that will be covered under
3 North Slope regs because the boundary splits right at
4 Point Hope.

5

6 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you. We'll
7 continue with Council discussion. Cyrus, did you have
8 something you wanted to say?

9

10 MR. HARRIS: Yeah, I did, but we just
11 got through talking about that furthest north colony,
12 so that kind of explained it there.

13

14 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Go ahead,
15 Taqulik.

16

17 MS. HEPA: Thank you. In looking at
18 the North Slope regs, Point Thompson is included on the
19 North Slope. So it wouldn't change the dates for Point
20 Thompson. Thank you. That's on Page 11.

21

22 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Go ahead, Pete.

23

24 MR. PROBASCO: Thank you, Madame Chair.
25 Two points I want to make. This is not area specific
26 within the Northwest Arctic Region. It's the entire
27 region, the proposal. My understanding that the
28 proponent is asking to add 19 additional days. So what
29 we're looking at is egging currently is allowed in this
30 area as a whole, recognizing it's a very large area and
31 there's a tiny difference within this area, but we're
32 looking at adding 19 days. Is that how everybody
33 understands it? Cyrus.

34

35 MR. HARRIS: Yeah. The murre in our
36 area they do lay fairly late, so the first clutch is
37 usually beginning the first part of July. Excuse me.
38 Can I go a little bit more?

39

40 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Yes.

41

42 MR. HARRIS: These are remote areas to
43 where there's no heavy traffic going to and from, but
44 these are sea level hunters that's going to and from
45 and then making occasional stops around the area during
46 that particular time of the year. It's also a shelter
47 area for when a storm occurs and getting on the other
48 side of the island to wait out the weather. So that
49 takes place roughly -- most of that activity really
50 takes place for the month of July.

00054

1 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Go ahead, Pete.

2

3 MR. PROBASCO: Cyrus, so do I view this
4 egging as opportunistic? In other words, they're doing
5 it while they're out sealing or are there times that
6 they're strictly directing their activities only to
7 egging?

8

9 MR. HARRIS: It's on the radar when
10 they're out sealing.

11

12 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Any other
13 discussion.

14

15 (No comments)

16

17 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: I have a comment.
18 I just wanted to thank Brandon for coming up to the
19 table and giving us an educational, kind of explaining
20 how it's traditionally done and not all the eggs are
21 taken. I appreciate the comments that you brought to
22 the table. Thank you, Brandon.

23

24 Pete.

25

26 MR. PROBASCO: Cyrus, just to -- the
27 refuge made a concern about impact, overharvest, and
28 I'm trying to get my arms around effort, potential
29 harvest rate, local depletion, et cetera. So what you
30 told me is that this is more of an opportunistic
31 activity versus a directed which would tell me that the
32 harvest rate would be less than a directed take. In
33 your mind, how many people participate? Is it
34 everybody?

35

36 MR. HARRIS: I believe that question
37 would be for Liliana with her surveys that she's
38 collected over the years. She'd probably have a better
39 record.

40

41 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: We could try out
42 Lili's website information.

43

44 (Laughter)

45

46 MS. NAVES: Liliana Naves, Division of
47 Subsistence. I think unfortunately the Northwest
48 Arctic is one of those regions that we have very little
49 data for. I think that Kotzebue was surveyed in 2012,
50 but the villages were surveyed in the mid-2000s so we

00055

1 can look at the Kotzebue data on the website right now
2 and see what I have, but I don't have much data there.

3

4 MR. HARRIS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
5 And it's not the whole Northwest Region. These are
6 just coastal villages and then mainly Buckland,
7 occasional Deering and Kotzebue in the specific
8 Chamisso.

9

10 DR. ROSENBERG: Okay, that last
11 statement confused me. It's specific to the one
12 island?

13

14 MR. HARRIS: The Chamisso area. The
15 Chamisso Island, yeah.

16

17 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: We also talked
18 about this proposal during our Native Caucus and we
19 talked that we wanted to take no action on this
20 proposal. So I mean it's been great discussion
21 purposes, but if that's how you still feel as the
22 proposer to take no action, if we were done with our
23 Council discussions.

24

25 MR. HARRIS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
26 Yeah, the no action really came from the information
27 that we received on that big murre die-off. Up until
28 we get more information on that explaining what the
29 die-off was. Indigenous knowledge indicates it's
30 perhaps overpopulating. This information was shared
31 with the regional representatives in that area. So if
32 it was no action, we'd continue with the season dates
33 that we have. It still can resurface sometime in the
34 near future once we find out more about the impact on
35 the murre die-off.

36

37 DR. ROSENBERG: Well, thank you for
38 that. That makes it much easier. I also want to say
39 how much I appreciate that point of view and your
40 willingness to do that. Initially I was going to put
41 all my faith in the regional management body and now I
42 even feel better about doing that in the future.
43 Thanks.

44

45 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Pete.

46

47 MR. PROBASCO: Thanks, Cyrus, for your
48 clarification on recommending where we go. Madame
49 Chair, we do have a motion on the table. To take no
50 action, we would have to have the second concur with

00056

1 the motion maker to pull that and then Cyrus would have
2 to make a new motion.

3

4 Madame Chair.

5

6 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Who was the
7 second? It was Peter, right?

8

9 MR. DEVINE: Yes.

10

11 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Do you concur?

12

13 MR. DEVINE: I concur.

14

15 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: So the motion is
16 to take no action on this proposal.

17

18 MR. PROBASCO: He'd have to make that.

19

20 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Oh, he'd have to
21 make that.

22

23 MR. HARRIS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
24 I'd like to make a motion for no action on Proposal
25 2017-8.

26

27 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: I have a motion
28 on the floor.

29

30 MR. HICKS: Second.

31

32 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Seconded.

33

34 MR. PROBASCO: Question.

35

36 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: The question has
37 been called. Patty.

38

39 MS. SCHWALENBERG: On Proposal 2017-8
40 to take no action. Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

41

42 DR. ROSENBERG: Yes.

43

44 MS. SCHWALENBERG: U.S. Fish and
45 Wildlife Service.

46

47 MR. PROBASCO: Yes.

48

49 MS. SCHWALENBERG: Native Caucus.

50

00057

1 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Yes.

2

3 MS. SCHWALENBERG: The motion passes.

4

5 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you. That
6 brings us through all of our proposals. I think this
7 was the first time that we had this many proposals to
8 go through. So I'm really excited of the proposal
9 process and the processes that are put in place so that
10 everybody's voice is heard and anybody can submit a
11 proposal. Thank you for everybody's time and all the
12 effort that's been put in to these proposals and all
13 the work that has taken place.

14

15 That brings us down to consent agenda
16 items 2017 regulations. Do you know what that is,
17 Patty?

18

19 MS. SCHWALENBERG: Yeah, this is all
20 the annual regulations that have not changed since last
21 year, so these are adopted as a group. We need a
22 motion to adopt the consent agenda.

23

24 MR. PROBASCO: Madame Chair. I'd like
25 to make a motion to adopt the consent agenda items for
26 the 2017 regulations for all 10 regions.

27

28 DR. ROSENBERG: I will second that.

29

30 MR. PROBASCO: Or 11 regions.

31

32 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: All right. It's
33 been moved and seconded for all 11 regions. Any
34 discussion.

35

36 (No comments)

37

38 DR. ROSENBERG: I'll call the question
39 if there's no discussion.

40

41 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: The question has
42 been called. Patty.

43

44 MS. SCHWALENBERG: On the motion to
45 adopt the consent agenda items for the 2017 regulations
46 for the 11 areas of the state, Alaska Department of
47 Fish and Game.

48

49 DR. ROSENBERG: Yes.

50

00058

1 MS. SCHWALENBERG: U.S. Fish and
2 Wildlife Service.

3

4 MR. PROBASCO: Yes.

5

6 MS. SCHWALENBERG: Native Caucus.

7

8 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Yes.

9

10 MS. SCHWALENBERG: The motion passes.

11

12 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: We're onto murre
13 die-off.

14

15 MR. PROBASCO: We did that.

16

17 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: We did it? I
18 think that we added it to our agenda. Was it part of a
19 report or did we give the.....

20

21 MS. SCHWALENBERG: We added it to the
22 agenda at the beginning of the meeting, but during
23 Eric's report it was discussed extensively. So I don't
24 know if you want to discuss it again, Madame Chair, or
25 not.

26

27 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: I guess I had a
28 little bit of a discussion on murre. One of the
29 questions that I had that, you know, when people are
30 gathering murre eggs, is that a concern or is there
31 anything that we need to look out for this spring when
32 people are gathering eggs?

33

34 MR. PROBASCO: Health-wise?

35

36 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Health-wise.

37

38 MR. PROBASCO: I think we should always
39 be careful in collecting food, but I guess my answer to
40 that is to date -- if you remember Rob Kaler said we've
41 sent 101 to date of the carcasses. He has a bunch
42 more, I think he said 30, over at USGS for further
43 testing. So far all those birds have tested negative
44 for any avian influenza and all indications are that
45 these birds are starving.

46

47 So that's the best I can do to answer
48 your question, Madame Chair.

49

50 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. Donna.

00059

1 MS. DEWHURST: The one thing I'd say is
2 if people go out to a colony that normally has nesting
3 murrens and they find that they've failed this year and
4 they aren't seeing nesting murrens and they aren't
5 seeing eggs, certainly call us and let us know that.
6 Like as has been mentioned, we don't have the resources
7 to get out to all the colonies during the summer. Only
8 a small number of them are monitored. So if there's
9 anything unusual, certainly report it to us. We'd be
10 very interested in that sort of information.

11

12 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you.
13 Cyrus.

14

15 MR. HARRIS: If I could add on to that,
16 Donna. I guess that part would be tricky. Suppose
17 there was a boat about two days before I went over
18 there and I wasn't aware of that boat being there
19 already and there didn't happen to be eggs. I guess it
20 would have to be for the whole eggging season.

21

22 MS. DEWHURST: Yeah, I mean it could
23 be. The birds that died in the die-off, we don't know
24 what colonies they came from. We don't have a clue. So
25 where we might see impacts is if a lot of the dead
26 birds came from let's say this colony over here and you
27 look at that colony and suddenly the bird numbers are
28 way down. What happens a lot in murrens is if the
29 numbers are down, sometimes the whole colony just fails
30 and doesn't reproduce that year. So that's the sort of
31 information that would be really useful to us.

32

33 Sometimes if they don't lay eggs, they
34 just split, so that would be very useful information
35 for us to know. That might give us a hint of where
36 these dead bodies came from because we really don't
37 know what colony. Rob and I were talking about that
38 the other day. How do you figure that out, which
39 colonies those dead birds came from. That's a big
40 information gap and it's going to be hard to get a hold
41 of.

42

43 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Liliana.

44

45 MS. NAVES: Are there data on the
46 composition of species on the birds that died in the
47 die-off?

48

49 MS. DEWHURST: We had the data on the
50 ones that were actually collected, but a lot of the

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1 counts walking along the beach and things, a lot of the
2 birds are scavaged too much to be able to definitely
3 tell apart. To tell Thick-billeds from Commons is
4 difficult. If you have the bird in hand, you can do
5 it, but other than that it can be -- that's why a lot
6 of our colony counts we don't have good breakdowns
7 between Thick-billeds and Commons because a lot of the
8 colony counts are done from a boat with binoculars or a
9 camera. You see these little dots on the cliff and you
10 can count them, but to tell a Thick-billed from a
11 Common from a boat with binoculars is very, very
12 difficult.

13

14 We do know statewide Thick-billeds are
15 way less common than Common Murres and the Thick-
16 billeds tend to be concentrated in the Aleutians, the
17 Pribilofs further west and south. There's a little bit
18 of Thick-billeds around the Alaska Peninsula, but for
19 the most part they're way more common out in the
20 Western Aleutians and the Pribis. We actually talked
21 about that too because another information gap is we
22 don't know if there's a significant difference on diet
23 between Commons and Thick-billeds.

24 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Anything else.

25

26 (No comments)

27

28 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. That
29 brings us to Crystal for U.S. Fish and Wildlife
30 Service, Native American Policy and Alaska Native
31 Relations Policy.

32

33 MS. LEONETTI: Hi. My Yup'ik name is
34 Geeskuk (ph). My family is from Kenai Peninsula and
35 Bristol Bay and I'm Yup'ik and English and Irish and
36 German. I am the Alaska Native Affairs Specialist for
37 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. It's an honor to be in
38 front of you today.

39

40 I'm going to give a short overview of
41 our Draft Alaska Native Relations Policy and then I'm
42 more interested in hearing your feedback on the draft
43 policy than anything else, so that's why I'm here.
44 There will be time between now and your next meeting as
45 well for your further review and feedback as the next
46 few months go by.

47

48 Essentially the first document that's
49 going around, the one with the feather on it, that's
50 the update to our 1994 Native American Policy. It's a

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1 National Policy and it was updated by a team of tribal
2 representatives and Fish and Wildlife Service employees
3 from across the United States and just signed this
4 January 20th by our director.

5

6 Participants on that team from Alaska
7 included our very own Patty Schwalenburg, Will Micklin
8 from Central Council Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of
9 Alaska and Dora Moore from Emmonak representing tribes,
10 then from Fish and Wildlife Service Hollis Twitchell,
11 who works for the Arctic Refuge and is Yup'ik and then
12 myself.

13

14 When we wrote that policy, because it
15 applies to the entire United States, there were many
16 times and lots of times spent on the differences in
17 Alaska. The Federal mandates here in Alaska are very
18 unique to Alaska Native people and directly applicable
19 to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. It would have
20 been too cumbersome to weigh down the National Policy
21 with all of the Alaska differences.

22

23 If you look on the first page under the
24 introduction and purpose of that National Policy,
25 almost at the bottom of the first section it says while
26 this national policy applies to all the Federally
27 recognized tribes, including tribes in Alaska, we plan
28 to develop a subsequent chapter in the Fish and
29 Wildlife Service manual that will address further
30 statutory considerations for Alaska, including
31 consultation for Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act
32 corporations.

33

34 Under Section 4 of that policy under
35 co-management, the second sentence: We also support
36 co-management where there is a legal basis for such.
37 Examples of legally established resource co-management
38 include salmon harvest in the Pacific Northwest, the
39 Alaska Migratory Bird Co-Management Council
40 cooperatively setting subsistence harvest regulations,
41 and lake trout fisheries in the Great Lakes.

42

43 So while the National Policy mentions
44 AMBCC and consultation with ANCSA corporations and a
45 couple other things in there like Marine Mammal
46 Commissions, we wanted to really be clear to our
47 employees in Alaska, Fish and Wildlife Service, how we
48 should be relating to Alaska Native people through
49 those bodies, through those organizations. So that's
50 what this draft is attempting to accomplish.

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1 This draft has been sent out to all the
2 tribal governments in Alaska as well as all the ANCSA
3 corporations and we've begun the process of tribal
4 consultation on the draft. At the same time we are
5 setting up meeting with the Marine Mammal Commissions
6 and AMBCC, which is why I'm here now, to review the
7 draft and gain feedback on it. Our request to you is
8 that you read it and put some thought into are there
9 any ways we can make it better.

10

11 So if you look at the draft, for the
12 purpose of it, I want to be clear what it is, so I'm
13 going to read a couple sentences from the introduction
14 of the Draft Alaska Native Relations Policy in the
15 second paragraph. The Service recognizes that Alaska
16 Native people are spiritually, physically, culturally,
17 and historically connected to the land, the wildlife
18 and the waters. Their customary and traditional way of
19 life has sustained their health, life, safety and
20 culture since time immemorial. As people of the land,
21 wildlife and waters, their way of life is more than
22 mere survival. It sustains a spiritual and a
23 subsistence connection to the land that are intertwined
24 with indigenous ceremonies and through oral histories,
25 songs, dances and potlatches. Bound by strict codes of
26 respect toward nature, they have been the land stewards
27 and caretakers from time beyond memory.

28

29 The Service, together with tribal and
30 Alaska Native corporation leaders, recognize the need
31 for special consideration in the Native American Policy
32 for Alaska. The Service maintains a relationship with
33 tribes, Alaska Native organizations, tribal consortia
34 and ANCs. These relationships are guided in part by
35 the Congressional mandates found in numerous statutes
36 such as the Marine Mammal Protection Act, Migratory
37 Bird Treaty Act, Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act,
38 Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act and the
39 2001 Appropriations Act.

40

41 Places where AMBCC are mentioned. You
42 are mentioned under Section 4, Resource Management, and
43 it talks about the Service being committed to ensuring
44 an effective and meaningful role for Alaska's
45 indigenous inhabitants in the conservation of migratory
46 birds. It talks about some specifics there.

47

48 On Page 6, under Meaningful Role for
49 Subsistence Users, it mentions the Migratory Bird
50 Treaty Act, the Protocol Amendment to the MBTA with

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1 Canada, Article 2, articulates that there will be a
2 meaningful role provided for subsistence users and the
3 management of migratory birds through the establishment
4 of regional management bodies.

5

6 Under Co-Management, Service supports
7 and encourages efforts to work with tribes and ANOs and
8 ANCs as appropriate through many creative methods to
9 protect, conserve, use, enhance or restore natural and
10 cultural resources. The Service is committed to
11 working with its co-management partners such as AMBCC
12 and the Alaska Native Marine Mammal Commission for the
13 conservation of migratory birds.

14

15 AMBCC is mentioned twice on Page 8 both
16 under Culture and Religion and under Law Enforcement,
17 and then again on the next page under Tribal Capacity
18 Building, Assistance and Funding and that talks about
19 the partner cooperative agreements. And then there's a
20 definition for AMBCC on Page 11.

21

22 I'll just say that I think this policy,
23 what we're trying to do is institutionalize good
24 guidance for our employees for the future. We're doing
25 a lot of these good things now and could stand to
26 improve in a couple areas, but the point is that when
27 we are retired and off doing fun things with
28 grandchildren, that the employees who come after us
29 will have something to guide them to keep those
30 practices going at Fish and Wildlife Service.

31

32 With that, I'll open it up to
33 questions, suggestions, comments and I'll take notes as
34 best as I can.

35

36 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you,
37 Crystal, for presenting that to us.

38

39 MS. LEONETTI: You're welcome.

40

41 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Go ahead, Dan.

42

43 DR. ROSENBERG: Yeah, thank you,
44 Crystal. My first question is are we all working off
45 the same copy here because I could not find -- I mean I
46 don't see.....

47

48 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: It's in this one.

49

50 DR. ROSENBERG: The one with the

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1 feather I have, but this is.....

2

3 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: You want this
4 one.

5

6 DR. ROSENBERG: Oh, oh. I'm looking at
7 this one. Thank you very much. No more questions.

8

9 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Go ahead Joeneal.

10

11 MR. HICKS: Thanks, Crystal. I
12 appreciate this document also and I really look forward
13 to reading it and looking into it a little further.
14 Two questions, I guess, arise. As you probably know,
15 my regional corporation is seeking to take over
16 management of fish and wildlife within Ahtna lands and
17 hopefully to end up with some kind of a co-management
18 agreement with the State and Federal government in
19 regards to management of those lands. In other words,
20 fish and wildlife resources, including migratory birds.
21 Has any steps been taken by you to collaborate with
22 them in that regards or have they contacted you?

23

24 MS. LEONETTI: They haven't contacted
25 me directly, but I'm working through Karen Linnell to
26 come to the Upper Copper River Region and meet with all
27 the tribes and corporations and we haven't pursued
28 anything further in terms of Ahtna's co-management
29 efforts that I know of. Unless Pete knows of
30 something.

31

32 MR. HICKS: Just to follow up on that,
33 on April 18th we are having a special meeting and I
34 would probably -- well, not probably, encourage you to
35 attend if you could because the purpose of that special
36 meeting is to discuss a subcontract between CRITR, the
37 Copper River Intertribal Resource Commission. In other
38 words, they are wishing or desire to subcontract with
39 CRNA the grant that we received from U.S. Fish and
40 Wildlife Service.

41

42 In other words, part of CRITR -- I mean
43 they would like the migratory bird program that CRNA
44 currently administers to be part of CRITR and that's
45 what the special meeting is all about. The legality of
46 it and all that stuff would be brought out and
47 discussed and I think that might be a good time for
48 collaboration to that effect.

49

50 MS. DEWHURST: I've been in

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1 conversation with Leslie Corliss on that topic and
2 explained to her the different possibilities on either
3 subcontracting or sometime in the future if CRNA wanted
4 to completely step out of the picture and turn it over
5 how the process would be to do that. So I've been
6 talking to Leslie for six months about that topic.

7

8 MR. HICKS: Just to follow up on that,
9 Leslie is fairly new here.

10

11 MS. DEWHURST: I think that's why she's
12 called me to figure out -- she wanted to know what the
13 procedures were. Yeah, there's nobody else left from
14 the old guard, but she's definitely pursuing it and
15 we've been in conversations since she's been around on
16 what the options are for CRNA and what they could do.
17 We can turn it over, but -- I don't want to get into
18 the weeds here, but we've been talking about it and she
19 has basically three options and it's going to be up to
20 CRNA to decide how they want to handle it.

21

22 MR. HICKS: On another question,
23 Crystal, I see here under Page 7 where you talk about
24 easements and allotments, I'm sure there are a lot of
25 other regional corporations that say ANCSA lands anyway
26 that have 17(b) easements. Those 17(b) easements have
27 been nothing but a thorn in the back since day one. A
28 good example is like in Mentasta what they call the
29 Eagle Trail, they have those big double dozers that go
30 up this particular trail and it destroys the entire
31 trail. You can't even use a four-wheeler up there
32 anymore and that is our traditional hunting grounds.
33 They go through fish streams where fish spawn in it.
34 What's the name of that?

35

36 MR. PROBASCO: Anadromous.

37

38 MR. HICKS: Anadromous streams. But
39 our complaints like to Fish and Game, to BLM, just go
40 unanswered. How can we fix that, I guess? I think
41 this is a good start at collaboration. Thank you.

42

43 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Gloria.

44

45 MS. STICKWAN: I think the meeting was
46 changed to April 22nd at 11:00 a.m. It would be good
47 to have both of you there. The other thing is CRITR is
48 made up of the tribes and co-management is striving
49 towards with the tribes, not the corporation. I just
50 want to make that clear.

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1 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you.

2

3 MS. LEONETTI: Thanks. I'll see if I
4 can get somebody from Fish and Wildlife at least.

5

6 MS. STICKWAN: Thank you.

7

8 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Crystal, I had
9 something and I don't know if this would apply to this
10 policy, but something that is happening in the Bristol
11 Bay Region and area are notifications of public comment
12 periods or even government-to-government consultation
13 opportunities. I just don't want it to be within U.S.
14 Fish and Wildlife Service that, you know, we put out
15 this public notice, we've contacted the tribes and
16 there's no information or data from our people because
17 we haven't had any knowledge of any type of meeting or
18 any type of call-in teleconference information that has
19 taken place.

20

21 I've participated in a number of public
22 comment periods within the U.S. Fish and Wildlife
23 Service and a lot of times Courtenay and I were always
24 the only ones on the telephone throughout the whole
25 state of Alaska. It would just happen to be for
26 something across our desk. I don't know how we could
27 improve this process, but it really needs to be
28 improved so that our voices are being heard and we have
29 that.

30

31 Because if we have
32 government-to-government consultation opportunity, I
33 know that our tribe would definitely participate if we
34 have knowledge that this was happening as well as the
35 other regions. I don't know if the other regions are
36 experiencing this same type of concern, but I think
37 it's throughout the state of Alaska. Would it apply in
38 this policy or is that something I would comment on
39 during the public comment period?

40

41 MS. LEONETTI: Well, you're a tribal
42 elected official, which is my tribe also, so right now
43 is the period for tribal consultation. We do
44 experience exactly what you're talking about and our
45 system probably hasn't been perfected yet, but what we
46 do is we send an email to all the tribes in the whole
47 state and we hope that reaches them. I know you've had
48 suggestions on better ways to get the word out to
49 tribes and, yes, this policy is definitely a place
50 where we can do that.

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1 I think part of the problem is
2 sometimes those email addresses -- you know, people
3 move on and then it's a different email address, so we
4 have trouble keeping up with that. And then if the
5 email goes to a certain person, they may or may not be
6 able to discern what to do with it. That's some of the
7 feedback we've gotten from tribes. So any suggestions
8 you have that we can incorporate here would be great.
9

10 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. I'll
11 definitely call you and maybe I can come to your office
12 and we can sit down and bounce some ideas back and
13 forth. Is that your only source of information that
14 you guys get out is by email or do we do regular mail
15 or fax?
16

17 MS. LEONETTI: Sometimes we do mail,
18 sometimes we do fax, sometimes we do phone calls. If
19 it's a big statewide issue like this one, we just do
20 the email because we don't have the -- that's how we do
21 it. It's the quickest, fastest way. For many of ours
22 where there's a local refuge, the Refuge Managers send
23 it out to their mailing list as well, so there's that
24 extra effort in those areas, which is actually a pretty
25 big part of the state and that's happening with this as
26 well. It might be slow going, but this is a long
27 consultation period on purpose because we know people
28 are busy and we want to get it right.
29

30 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Another good
31 idea, I don't know if you have anything on the website,
32 but I know with the State of Alaska with any kind of
33 Board news information, anything that's happening, I
34 get an automatic sign-up email and that might be
35 something we could look at with U.S. Fish and Wildlife
36 Service as new information comes out or if you had a
37 website where we could go to and list all of the public
38 comment and government opportunities, that would be
39 very resourceful.
40

41 Any other questions, comments. Randy.
42

43 MR. MAYO: Thank you, Madame Chair. We
44 were presented with this when we had our regional
45 meeting and it sounds encouraging. Like Crystal just
46 said, this will be a guidance in the future. So would
47 this be used also with employee orientation, people
48 that are new employees that aren't well-versed in
49 Indian country legalities and whatnot?
50

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1 One time a few years ago me and one of
2 my technical staff participated in a -- it was with
3 another agency Native American orientation for
4 employees. So would this kind of be a part of that too
5 for Service employees? I've been doing this kind of
6 work for quite a while and throughout the years you get
7 a lot of new employees up here that don't understand
8 the country or the legalities or the differences
9 between tribal governments and Native corporations. So
10 would this kind of go into any kind of employee
11 orientation also?

12

13 MS. LEONETTI: Than you, Randy. Yeah,
14 I remember when you and Duey used to come and train
15 everybody up real good. On Page 9 of the Draft Policy
16 under implementation and monitoring there's an employee
17 training and education section. That same kind of
18 program that you and Duey used to teach we have at Fish
19 and Wildlife Service. It's required for all employees
20 and we're offering it twice a year now. So this policy
21 would become integral to that training. Currently it's
22 an agenda that's been put together by Native employees
23 at Fish and Wildlife Service and covers all the
24 history, laws, cultures, TEK. We have a panel of five
25 elders always there. It's a good emersion program for
26 our employees. So the answer is yes.

27

28 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Gloria.

29

30 MS. STICKWAN: I was just wondering
31 what the deadline is.

32

33 MS. LEONETTI: We hope to publish a
34 final policy next spring. I know that's vague, but we
35 want to do a good long period of consultation first, so
36 that's through the end of August this year. Then we're
37 compiling a meeting of tribal and corporation
38 representatives that will come together and review the
39 results of consultation, make edits to this policy in
40 September and then we will have -- the Marine Mammal
41 Commissions meet in December, so we'll have to wait
42 until December and meet with the Marine Mammal
43 Commissions and then publish a draft policy for public
44 comment period in January or February timeframe. So
45 the hope is by next spring 2017 we'll have something.

46

47 MS. STICKWAN: Thank you.

48

49 MS. LEONETTI: You're welcome.

50

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1 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Anything else.
2 Go ahead, Pete.

3
4 MR. PROBASCO: Thank you, Madame Chair.
5 I just want to acknowledge Crystal, your work. I
6 recognize that there's a lot of people that have helped
7 you, but this is just one part since your employment at
8 the Service has generated very positive results. Any
9 time you have an effort like this it needs somebody at
10 the helm and I just want to commend you, not only for
11 this, but what you did for the Federal Board with the
12 tribal consultation policy, Native relations training
13 -- which, by the way, I took this spring and I learned
14 a lot. So, Crystal, I just want to thank you.

15
16 MS. LEONETTI: You're welcome and thank
17 you.

18
19 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Yeah, we have
20 noticed a difference, Pete.

21
22 (Laughter)

23
24 MR. PROBASCO: I was taught whenever I
25 have ladies sitting by me I've got to be good.

26
27 (Laughter)

28
29 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. Thank you
30 so much, Crystal, and I look forward to working with
31 you and chatting with you.

32
33 MS. LEONETTI: Thanks, Madame Chair.
34 And it's great to see a woman chairing the AMBCC and
35 you're doing a great job.

36
37 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Oh, thanks.
38 Okay. Moving on we have outreach and education, the
39 duck stamp implementation, handicrafts, Emperor Geese.
40 We're adding an Outreach Committee to this list as
41 well.

42
43 MS. SCHWALENBERG: The outreach and
44 education issue on the agenda is a point of information
45 and discussion if the Council wishes, but over the past
46 few weeks we've had some confusion from the communities
47 about the duck stamp implementation. So Crystal
48 Leonetti and I and the law enforcement people, Ryan
49 Noel and Rory Stark got together as well as with
50 External Affairs Rob Simons and started to try to

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1 develop some type of flyer or poster that we could
2 distribute regarding the duck stamp because the
3 regulation is very confusing.

4

5 There was also concern about the
6 Emperor Goose closure. Some people thought the season
7 was open and some people thought it was not open, so we
8 felt we needed another big effort to try to get that
9 word out to the communities to let them know that the
10 Emperor Goose harvest is not going to occur in 2016 and
11 the specifics regarding the Federal duck stamp
12 implementation.

13

14 In those discussions we also talked
15 about the positive aspects of the handicraft regulation
16 in relation to the Migratory Bird Treaty centennial and
17 how we should be getting out some positive information
18 regarding the AMBCC in the centennial. So with all
19 those discussions happening in the past month or so it
20 became clear to me that I think we need to resurrect
21 the Outreach and Education Committee. We had one in
22 2003. We were I think so focused on trying to get
23 regulations in place and making sure that we were doing
24 a good job in that area that that committee never met,
25 so several years ago it was disbanded by the AMBCC.

26

27 Fast forward to now when we've had some
28 actual staff to get some things done, we've been very
29 busy, I think the AMBCC has been kind of put on the
30 radar on a lot of levels and a lot of areas, even
31 nonprofit organizations are starting to take notice of
32 us. So I would like to request the AMBCC to consider
33 reinstating the Outreach and Education Committee and to
34 assist with serving on that body. I would also like to
35 request the Fish and Wildlife Service to lend some of
36 their staff to work with us on that committee as well.

37

38 Thank you, Madame Chair.

39

40 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you. Do we
41 need to select people for that committee now or
42 just.....

43

44 MS. SCHWALENBERG: We need a motion.

45

46 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Oh, okay.

47

48 MS. HEPA: Madame Chair. I would like
49 to make a motion to reinstate the Outreach and
50 Education Committee.

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1 DR. ROSENBERG: I will second that
2 motion.

3
4 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: It's been moved
5 and seconded. Discussion.

6
7 MS. HEPA: Question.

8
9 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: The question has
10 been called. Do we need a roll call or just all in
11 favor?

12
13 MR. PROBASCO: Just say is there any
14 objections.

15
16 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Are there any
17 objections.

18
19 (No opposing votes)

20
21 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Motion carries.

22
23 MR. PROBASCO: Madame Chair.

24
25 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Yes.

26
27 MR. PROBASCO: Definitely the Service
28 would be interested in assisting in this committee. We
29 would also encourage that we get some of our regional
30 council representations too. Outreach and education in
31 rural Alaska is definitely something that is an art in
32 some cases, so we need that local expertise to be
33 successful. Madame Chair.

34
35 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. Would we
36 add that to the list when we get down to committee
37 appointments and assignments, we would add the outreach
38 and people could think about if they would like to be
39 on that committee.

40
41 MS. SCHWALENBERG: Yeah, we could.

42
43 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: All right. So
44 now we have invitation for public comments. Go ahead
45 and come up, Gloria. I really encourage anybody if
46 they have any additional information they would like to
47 share or comments about our meeting today. Thank you.

48
49 MS. STICKWAN: I had a question about
50 the proposal process and Technical Committee. There's

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1 nothing written down about proposal process. When we
2 submitted a proposal, we thought it would be withdrawn
3 because we withdrew it as a committee, so I had a
4 question about that.

5

6 And I had a question about the
7 Technical Committee part of it. I got help writing the
8 proposal and I was asked to make clarification on the
9 boundaries, excluding Mat-Su, so I did that, but it
10 wasn't a part of the discussion from the Technical
11 Committee when they brought up their report. That
12 wasn't a part of the discussion at all, neither was the
13 amended proposal that I submitted to U.S. Fish and
14 Wildlife Service. That wasn't included because I did
15 make an amendment to my proposal to exclude Mat-Su,
16 Lake Louise and there was no discussion on it at this
17 meeting, so I just had a question about that.

18

19 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. We'll
20 address the proposal process first and then we could go
21 to the Technical Committee second. I do want to say
22 that we are in a process of developing the proposal
23 process, so that's something that's ongoing and I can
24 let -- Donna, are you going to speak to the proposal
25 process?

26

27 MS. STICKWAN: Can you put it on like
28 the website or something so the public will know or
29 maybe I didn't see it.

30

31 MS. DEWHURST: I can quickly clarify
32 Gloria's question about the timing. The Technical
33 Committee met before your change on the Mat-Su. That's
34 why their comments didn't address that, because they
35 had already met.

36

37 MS. STICKWAN: I would say in the
38 future there should be a change to the way this is done
39 because my comment should have been included. I
40 recommend that you look at this.

41

42 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: I agree with
43 Gloria. Part of some of the discussions that we had
44 were -- when the Technical Committee meets and then
45 there's things that we need more further clarification
46 and when people provide that clarification, the
47 information should then get dispensed to the entire
48 Technical Committee and not just a certain people on
49 the Technical Committee, but as information does come
50 in, even after the Technical Committee met, that

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1 information should be brought for follow-up items that
2 weren't at the Technical Committee level.

3

4 So we'll add that into -- where would
5 we add that into our process because that's really
6 important information. Yeah, we didn't have your
7 updated information before us.

8

9 Any other public comment. Oh, yay,
10 Verner.

11

12 MR. WILSON: I just wanted to briefly
13 say thank you very much. This is a really interesting
14 learning process and I'm looking forward to working
15 with you all in the future. I know that there are a
16 lot of different issues and I've been thinking about
17 what sort of committees that I've been wanting to serve
18 on, but knowing this process is here and taking care of
19 our migratory bird resources in Alaska I feel very
20 confident that we're going to take care of these
21 issues. I was part of our QKC meeting in Bristol Bay
22 and just seeing that there's a lot of dialogue about
23 the murrees especially I think that's really important.

24

25 I wanted to just say thank you very
26 much and looking forward to working with you.

27

28 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you. Could
29 you state your name for the record, please.

30

31 MR. WILSON: Oh, yeah. Sorry. Verner
32 Wilson, Director of Natural Resources for the Bristol
33 Bay Native Association.

34

35 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you. Any
36 other public comment.

37

38 (No comments)

39

40 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: That gets us down
41 to committee appointments and assignments. That's
42 under Tab 12 in your book.

43

44 MS. SCHWALENBERG: The second document
45 under Tab 12 lists the committees and members of the
46 AMBCC. I did highlight the one that I knew the person
47 was not -- no longer under their current position, so
48 they are not on the committee anymore. They'll need to
49 be removed from the committee. Now we have a new
50 Outreach and Education Committee. If there are any

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1 other changes to be made, we can do them at this time.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: I do see one
4 that's highlighted, Courtenay Carty is no longer the
5 alternate for the Bristol Bay Regional Council.
6 Verner, did you want to take her place on the Emperor
7 Goose Management Committee.

8

9 MR. WILSON: Yes.

10

11 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: We can add Verner
12 Wilson. He is our designated alternate for Bristol
13 Bay. I did see one more on there, Patty, on the
14 government-to-government consultation. Where did Sonny
15 go? Sonny stated that he wanted to be -- was it on the
16 Law Enforcement Committee?

17

18 MS. SCHWALENBERG: Uh-huh
19 (affirmative).

20

21 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: So if we could
22 add Sonny to the Law Enforcement Committee. Verner
23 could be added to the Handicrafts and Harvest Survey.
24 Does anybody else see any committees they want to be on
25 from the Native Caucus. What about the new Outreach
26 Committee. Joeneal. Anybody else. Liliana. Taqulik.

27

28

29 If it's okay, I'm going to add myself
30 and Verner. Doing outreach and education is one of our
31 -- we're a really good team when it comes to that and
32 we do it. We have a lot of experience doing outreach
33 in our Bristol Bay Region on a lot of different issues
34 that we were on. Crystal, do you want to be on the
35 Outreach Committee.

36

37 MS. SCHWALENBERG: And Tamara.

38

39 MR. PROBASCO: I think we're definitely
40 going to have somebody on there. Tamara would be the
41 first choice, but she's got a lot on her plate.

42

43 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: We all do.

44

45 (Laughter)

46

47 MS. SCHWALENBERG: No sympathy from
48 this corner.

49

50 MS. ZELLER: I know, I know.

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1 MR. PROBASCO: Well, get back to you.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: We might not have
4 as much on our plate if we get this Outreach and
5 Education Committee going.

6

7 MR. STARK: I'll volunteer too.

8

9 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Rory. Approach
10 the mic, Mr. Wilson.

11

12 MR. WILSON: Hi, this is Verner Wilson
13 again with BBNA. I was just talking with Crystal about
14 the government-to-government consultation temporary
15 committee and you were saying there hasn't been a
16 meeting yet, but I was expressing interest in perhaps
17 serving on that committee as well. I don't know if you
18 want to clarify.

19

20 MS. LEONETTI: Is there a lead for that
21 committee? It's funny, I was just telling Verner how
22 bossy Gayla is and then he bossed me to come up here.

23

24 (Laughter)

25

26 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Those are
27 leadership skills.

28

29 MS. LEONETTI: Oh, okay.

30

31 (Laughter)

32

33 MS. SCHWALENBERG: This temporary
34 committee was established during the spring gathering
35 we had in 2012, whenever it was, but I'm wondering if
36 the Alaska Native Relations Policy is going to address
37 this whole issue and we wouldn't have to even have this
38 committee. What do you think? The reason was to
39 develop and recommend a meaningful method for tribal
40 consultation to fit into the AMBCC process.

41

42 MS. LEONETTI: Right. I think
43 consultation is always offered to the tribes when
44 proposals are being written or regulations are being
45 written for publication, but I think the attendance on
46 those is very, very low and I don't know if that's an
47 issue for people or not. I don't know. Maybe the
48 committee should meet again and just kind of touch on
49 those issues and see if the new policy can help.

50

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1 MS. SCHWALENBERG: Okay. So, Verner,
2 you want to be on that committee?

3

4 MR. WILSON: Yeah, sure. I think a lot
5 of it is related to the Outreach and Education
6 Committee for trying to get more participation for
7 tribal consultation.

8

9 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Do we have
10 everybody that we were trying to capture for the
11 Outreach and Education Committee? Do you have anybody,
12 Dan?

13

14 DR. ROSENBERG: Well, Lili is on it for
15 now and then perhaps we'll add somebody if we may in
16 the future come up with a name.

17

18 MR. TULIK: I'll accept.

19

20 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: What was your
21 name again?

22

23 MR. TULIK: Christopher Tulik.

24

25 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Did we want to
26 select an alternate seat for the Flyway Council and
27 Service Regulations Committee representatives. Anybody
28 want to be an alternate?

29

30 (No comments)

31

32 MR. PROBASCO: Is Gayla on there?

33

34 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: I could be an
35 alternate if nobody else is jumping to get their name
36 on there. Peter.

37

38 MR. DEVINE: No, put Sonny there.

39

40 (Laughter)

41

42 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Do you guys see
43 any other names that aren't here anymore that need to
44 be replaced.

45

46 DR. TAYLOR: I'd like to add one person
47 to the Harvest Survey Committee for Fish and Wildlife
48 Service, Chuck Frost. My only other request is on the
49 Outreach and Education Committee, if there's some brave
50 soul to say he or she would be committee chair, that

00077

1 will ensure something will happen. That's often a
2 fault. Somebody actually has to call the meetings.

3

4 Thank you.

5

6 MS. SCHWALENBERG: Are you
7 volunteering?

8

9 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: He's not on that
10 committee.

11

12 MS. SCHWALENBERG: So far we have
13 Joeneal Hicks, Liliana Naves, Taqulik Hepa, Gayle
14 Hoseth, Verner Wilson, Crystal Leonetti, Tamara Zeller
15 maybe, Rory Stark and Christopher Tulik.

16

17 MR. PROBASCO: Vince is volunteering
18 for a slot and the chairmanship.

19

20 (Laughter)

21

22 MS. NAVES: I will.

23

24 MS. SCHWALENBERG: Chair? You want to
25 be chair.

26

27 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Lili will be
28 chair.

29

30 MR. HICKS: Madame Chair, I'll
31 volunteer to chair.

32

33 MS. SCHWALENBERG: Lili just
34 volunteered.

35

36 MR. HICKS: She said she has a slot
37 open.

38

39 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Do you want to be
40 co-chair?

41

42 MR. HICKS: Okay.

43

44 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: That would be
45 good. Yeah, definitely.

46

47 MS. HEPA: Even though I put myself
48 down, I might assign our outreach coordinator for the
49 North Slope Borough, which is Leslie Pierce.

50

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1 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. If there
2 are no other additions or corrections, we'll need a
3 motion for the changes and Patty will read it.

4
5 MS. SCHWALENBERG: The motion would be
6 to replace Courtenay Carty from the AMBCC Emperor Goose
7 Subcommittee with Verner Wilson. Remove Jim Ujioka
8 from the Government-to-Government Committee and add
9 Verner Wilson. Add Sonny Squartsoff to the Law
10 Enforcement Committee. Add Verner Wilson to the
11 Handicrafts Committee. Add Verner Wilson and Chuck
12 Frost to the Harvest Survey Committee. Add Gayla
13 Hoseth as the alternate to the Pacific Flyway Council
14 and Service Regulations Committee representative. To
15 identify members of the new Outreach and Education
16 Committee: Joeneal Hicks, Liliana Naves, Taqulik Hepa,
17 Gayla Hoseth, Verner Wilson, Crystal Leonetti, Tamara
18 Zeller, Rory Stark, Christopher Tulik, Vince Mathews
19 and the co-chairs would be Liliana Naves and Joeneal
20 Hicks.

21
22 MR. HARRIS: I so move.

23
24 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: We have a motion.

25
26 MR. HICKS: Second.

27
28 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: It's been moved
29 and seconded.

30
31 MR. PROBASCO: Question.

32
33 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: The question has
34 been called. Any objections.

35
36 (No opposing votes)

37
38 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Motion carries.
39 That gets us down to Council and Staff comments. If
40 you want to go around the room and give our closing
41 comments. Randy.

42
43 MR. MAYO: I'd just like to say thanks
44 to the Staff, Patty, yourself for doing a good job
45 chairing and all the other board members for taking
46 time out to do this important work. I know some of us
47 are doing more than others and it's appreciated to help
48 our people at home continue our way of life and
49 whatnot. I was just being reminded by one of the RITs
50 yesterday that we're doing this for and on behalf of

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1 our people at home out in the field that aren't a part
2 of this regulatory process and our job is to try to get
3 the information to people so their rights are protected
4 and enhanced into the future.

5

6 So I just wanted to thank everybody.

7

8 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you, Randy.

9 Jack.

10

11 MR. FAGERSTROM: Those were my thoughts
12 exactly. This was a good meeting. Not a lot of
13 tension. I hope all the other future meetings are this
14 good. Safe travel home.

15

16 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you, Jack.

17 Cyrus.

18

19 MR. HARRIS: I'd pretty much like to
20 echo what Randy and these guys said over here. I'd
21 like to also add on to that list it was a very
22 educational meeting for me going through all these
23 proposals and seeing how the process actually goes. A
24 great exercise for me and what I'm trying to do for our
25 community and learning about other issues within the
26 state here.

27

28 Again, I'd like to thank all the folks
29 that put this meeting together and got us here to work
30 for our people. Thank you.

31

32 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you, Cyrus.

33 Taquulik.

34

35 MS. HEPA: Thank you. I too thought
36 this was a good meeting and I especially want to thank
37 Patty and Donna for all the legwork to get us to where
38 we were in this successful meeting over the last couple
39 days. And, Gayla, good job on your chairmanship. You
40 did really good.

41

42 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you.

43

44 MS. HEPA: Thank you, guys.

45

46 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Joeneal.

47

48 MR. HICKS: I too would like to say
49 that this is a very productive meeting. I think we've
50 come a long, long way. I look forward to the summer

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1 and I hope all of you enjoy it, catch a lot of fish,
2 hunt, get out there and enjoy. Thank you.

3

4 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you.
5 Peter.

6

7 MR. DEVINE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
8 Oh, man, I come up here with a heavy heart this time,
9 but it's still all about trying to get what we need for
10 our people. This is pretty time consuming. I get
11 frustrated a lot. It seemed like things aren't going
12 right and then, you know -- yesterday you told me, oh,
13 no, where did you get that from. I told you this
14 morning no proposal is going to pass and then darn near
15 all of them passed, so things can work out. We just
16 have to keep grinding. Sometimes things are worded a
17 little different and changes the whole outcome of a
18 proposal. I'm glad we have this process where we can
19 sit down and talk it out and get it done.

20

21 Thanks.

22

23 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you, Peter.
24 Dan.

25

26 DR. ROSENBERG: Thank you, Madame
27 Chair. Well, first I'd like to move to amend the
28 bylaws to make Gayla the permanent Chair.

29

30 MR. PROBASCO: Second.

31

32 (Laughter)

33

34 DR. ROSENBERG: I thought you did a
35 wonderful job and thank you for that. Thank everybody
36 for your participation. I thought it was a good
37 meeting. There's this rumor that I may be retiring
38 soon and this may be my last meeting and I probably
39 should quit saying maybe, but I think it will be and so
40 I just want to say it's been wonderful working with
41 everyone in this meeting, in this group I should say.
42 I appreciate all of your efforts to keep your cultural
43 and traditional values alive and well and promote your
44 culture. My only regret is I won't be here to help you
45 out in that endeavor at all anymore, but I will be
46 around. I won't be far away.

47

48 But I really have enjoyed working with
49 this group and I want to thank you all very much for
50 your patience with me and just for all your thoughts

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1 and ideas and just being here for this. So that's
2 about it. That's all I have to say for now. I'll turn
3 it over to Pete.

4

5 MR. PROBASCO: Thank you, Madame Chair.
6 Dan, I'd just remind you that you still have some work
7 to do before you retire. I wish you the best in that.
8 I look forward to working with you on that. Gayla,
9 very well done. You're a good chairperson.

10

11 Of course, we've all acknowledged both
12 Donna and Patty. I get to see how hard Donna works
13 behind the scenes. A lot of frustrations, particularly
14 working with Washington, D.C., working with me, working
15 with Eric. But it's a good team. We get a lot done.
16 Patty, you're a good foundation, so thank you.

17

18 With that said, sometimes when -- and
19 Peter captured it. You look at our process and it
20 seems that we're at odds, but in reality this is a
21 regulatory process and we have to make sure we make a
22 good record on how the decisions were made. So
23 sometimes things are brought out or, like you saw Dan
24 and I yesterday debating, sort of pushing each other.
25 Well, we're trying to get all the information on the
26 table so that if we were ever challenged, we don't have
27 an insufficient record to support the decision. So
28 it's a good process. We've just got to keep that in
29 mind as we work through it. We can't slam everything
30 through. We still have to put that record on.

31

32 I want to wish everybody, like Joeneal
33 said, a good summer and a safe summer. For those that
34 are out on the sea fishing, be careful, come home safe
35 and look forward to the fall meeting. Thank you.

36

37 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you, Pete
38 and Dan. Patty.

39

40 MS. SCHWALENBERG: I'm just happy
41 because we're almost done. I want to thank everyone for
42 coming and participating and coming with an open mind
43 and working together to resolve the problems because I
44 think that's where co-management begins, is we need to
45 trust each other, be willing to listen to each other's
46 ideas and embrace those ideas even though they're not
47 our own.

48

49 I'd also like to thank you for your
50 patience with me. I've been extremely busy these past

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1 three months, so there have been things that have been
2 missed. Maybe a mistake here and there. There are
3 oversights on my part and I apologize, but overall I
4 think the meeting went very well. It wasn't because of
5 me. It was because of each of you and I appreciate
6 every one of you in this room.

7

8 So thank you very much. See you in the
9 fall.

10

11 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you. I'll
12 close with my closing comments. I think this was a
13 really good meeting. I was nervous at first to Chair
14 the meeting and to be in this seat. It's a lot
15 different than sitting over there and being up here,
16 but I think that everything went smoothly and thanks
17 for bearing with me and any mistakes that I made along
18 the way in terms of Robert's Rules of Order and keeping
19 me intact. I want to thank Pete for giving me guidance
20 as to how this meeting should be run.

21

22 I also want to thank Dan for -- you
23 know, I was sitting up here and last time I cried and
24 maybe I shouldn't get to Dan yet because I feel tears
25 coming on. But I just want to thank everybody. When
26 we had our meeting in Fairbanks, when we have our
27 meetings outside of Anchorage, it does bring everybody
28 closer together and everybody is like a family here and
29 I think we have a really good working Council and we
30 all work well together. I think things are moving in a
31 positive direction.

32

33 Getting to know everybody in the
34 audience as well too is a lot of fun and knowing people
35 by their first names and not just seeing faces. So I'm
36 just really happy that we have these relationships that
37 are ongoing.

38

39 Then I'll get back to Dan because I
40 feel the tears may have gone away, but I want to thank
41 you, Dan, for all of your hard work that you have done
42 and thank you for what you have done for the AMBCC. I
43 really hope that you are our public participation and
44 this won't be the last that we see of you and when we
45 call for public comment that you would give us good
46 insight and direction from the public.

47

48 I'm just really proud of this group, so
49 thank you. And I really want to say thank you to Patty
50 and Donna too. I mean Patty has a lot of workload and

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1 we all have a lot of workload and I just want to thank
2 -- you know, this is a lot of stuff to keep track of
3 and to monitor and everything, so Patty does a very
4 good job in keeping us informed.

5

6 I think our monthly Native Caucus
7 meetings that we have are great and it keeps us all
8 connected throughout the year, so I look forward to
9 talking to you guys next month. Those are all my
10 closing comments. And I didn't cry.

11

(Laughter)

12

13
14 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: So that brings us
15 down to the date and place of the next meeting. Before
16 we talk about the place, I really do think that we
17 should have a fall harvest potluck. When we had our
18 15-year celebration potluck, that was really fun to
19 taste different foods from different regions that we
20 haven't possibly tasted before. I loved the sheefish
21 that Cyrus brought last time. Let's plan for a fall
22 harvest potluck in the fall and we could discuss maybe
23 where we might want to have that meeting. I know we
24 have to keep in mind budget concerns and travel costs.
25 We could discuss where we might want to have the
26 meeting.

27

28 MS. HEPA: I'd welcome folks to come to
29 Barrow. I know it's expensive, but falltime in Barrow
30 would be a great place for us to gather so we could eat
31 muktuk.

32

33 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: I would love to
34 come to Barrow, but can we do it during whaling season?

35

36 MS. HEPA: The last week of September.
37 Okay. Let's go to Copper Center.

38

39 MR. HICKS: No accommodations there.

40

41 MS. HEPA: No lodges?

42

(Off record discussion)

43

44
45 MR. HARRIS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
46 Thanks for the offer for Kotzebue, but September is a
47 really heavy subsistence activity for our people back
48 home. You don't see very many people. They're out
49 harvesting, so it's a very heavy subsistence time of
50 year. If we were going to select Kotzebue, the spring

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1 meeting would probably fit more better.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Pete, you had
4 something.

5

6 MR. PROBASCO: Patty, I'd just remind
7 you we have some issues we have to act on at fall prior
8 to the fall meeting of the Flyway and that's the last
9 week of September. So we need to put that into our
10 formula.

11

12 Also, when we move this meeting, I
13 don't know where we're at with that, Donna, but
14 originally we were supposed to be in Bethel this
15 spring. I do not know if we made any expectations to
16 our Y-K Delta part of this group that we would go there
17 in the fall, but I'm not sure. Donna, do you know
18 where we're at with that or is it wide open? Patty, do
19 you know?

20

21 MS. SCHWALENBERG: I told them we would
22 work with them to see if we could do it in the fall.
23 If not, we would try to find another remote location.

24

25 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. And then I
26 know with budget travel concerns for the State of
27 Alaska has limited travel. I really do think it's
28 important that we have key individuals here at our
29 council instead of having them on the phone. So we
30 need to make sure that we get good participation as
31 well for the key people that are going to be presenting
32 to us or have somebody present for them. I really
33 enjoyed having our meeting in Fairbanks. Do we want to
34 do Bethel, Barrow and lastly Anchorage?
35 We would be happy to have you guys out in Dillingham.
36 I know that we've had one in Dillingham in the past.
37 Have you guys had a Barrow meeting?

38

39 MS. HEPA: A long time ago.

40

41 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: We would be happy
42 to have it in Dillingham. Maybe we could get a cost
43 breakdown sheet of lodging and airfare and we could
44 kind of look at it as a cost factor, but we could add
45 Dillingham to the list.

46

47 MR. HARRIS: Sometime in the near
48 future we could select Kotzebue for this time of the
49 year. Right now the fish are biting. It would be a
50 great time to be around the area.

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1 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Yeah. All right.
2 So we have some options. We'll do a budget estimate
3 because we know that budgets are a big concern and we
4 could present that to everybody.

5
6 Now for the date of the next meeting.
7 What do our dates look like. There's calendars in the
8 back of your book as well. Oh, yeah, we have to spend
9 our money before September 30th and we have to meet
10 before the Pacific Flyway Council. Do we want to shoot
11 for the week of the 19th September? Would that be
12 enough time if there was any changes or any information
13 to bring to the Pacific Flyway?

14
15 MS. SCHWALENBERG: We're good.

16
17 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: We're good. You
18 guys didn't want to go for the week of the 12th or that
19 gets into -- because hunting season ends on the 15th.

20
21 MR. PROBASCO: I'm at moose camp.

22
23 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: You're at moose
24 camp. Patty, will that work for you to have AMBCC the
25 week before Pacific Flyway?

26
27 DR. ROSENBERG: Well, it would be
28 appreciated, I think, if we could get a plan to the
29 council a month before their meeting. That obviously
30 rules out having it approved at this meeting. So have
31 to think about if there's another way we can either
32 approve the Emperor Goose Plan in advance of the AMBCC
33 meeting or discuss options with the Council as far as
34 their willingness to receive it later. I don't have an
35 answer for that now. Maybe Todd has some more ideas on
36 that or thoughts.

37
38 DR. SANDERS: Todd Sanders, U.S. Fish
39 and Wildlife Service. Yeah, I would just say I think
40 the Pacific Flyway Council would be flexible as to when
41 they receive the plan. I think they would appreciate
42 that there's a challenge in making sure that we get
43 concurrence between the AMBCC and the Pacific Flyway,
44 so I think they would be willing to work with whatever
45 the needs are.

46
47 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Does that week
48 work for you, Patty?

49
50 MS. SCHWALENBERG: It would work if we

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1 have minimal meetings prior to the AMBCC meeting.
2 Regional management body meetings as well it puts a big
3 strain on the staff to try and attend all the meetings
4 and we want to, but then the schedules start
5 conflicting and it make it very difficult to try to
6 attend all the meetings and still get ready for the
7 AMBCC meeting and the Pacific Flyway Council meeting as
8 well.

9

10 I would request that we dispense with
11 any of the -- if possible -- the committees that do not
12 absolutely have to meet. Do not meet during the fall
13 if our schedule is going to be that close. I don't
14 know about the Native Caucus.

15

16 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Yeah, looking at
17 having it that last week in September really makes it
18 tight on all of us because we have moose hunting
19 season. Cyrus was saying how it's a big subsistence
20 harvest time. For me to even call a council meeting,
21 people are gathering food for their freezers. And
22 having it in August, people are fishing, so pretty much
23 summertime is not a good time.

24

25 MS. SCHWALENBERG: If we restrict the
26 meeting to half day work session and then the Council
27 meeting, then we would only be meeting Tuesday,
28 Wednesday, Thursday or Wednesday, Thursday, Friday or
29 however the Council wanted those days to go.

30

31 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. So do we
32 want to plan for that week and we can figure out
33 whether it's going to be a two to three day meeting
34 versus a three to four day meeting.

35

36 MS. HEPA: Sounds good.

37

38 MR. PROBASCO: For the week of the
39 19th.

40

41 MS. HEPA: I like it the later part of
42 September because we usually have our regional body
43 meeting at the end of August or early September and we
44 go out to one of the villages.

45

46 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: So the 15th and
47 16th wouldn't -- I was just trying to give Patty and
48 the people that have to do all the work in order to
49 prepare for Pacific Flyway to have a little break in
50 between meetings.

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1 MS. SCHWALENBERG: If we did Monday,
2 Tuesday, Wednesday, that would be good.

3

4 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: If we did Monday,
5 Tuesday, Wednesday. Do we want to plan for the 19th to
6 the 21st then? Okay. All right. Well, that gets us
7 to our final agenda item for adjournment.

8

9 MS. HEPA: Move to adjourn.

10

11 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Move to adjourn.

12

13 MR. HICKS: Second.

14

15 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: It's been moved
16 and seconded. Thank you very much everybody. We'll
17 see you in the fall.

18

19 (Off record)

20

21 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)

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1 C E R T I F I C A T E

2

3 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)

4) ss.

5 STATE OF ALASKA)

6

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